Music is one of the most in postant parts of Uighur culture." he said. "People here can wear Ang. said. People here can wear american T-shirts, but their hearts stay the same. The music, because it's such a symbol of the heart, change slowly,

Nonetheless, Heet has been changing the music, influenced by Persian, Arabic and Turkish music Lighur songs are as jubilant as the are complex, scaring and dipping along the Arabic scale known as the magan and helping to give be Xinjiang region the nickname the land of song and dance."

Generally thought to have been brought to the area in the ninth century, Uighur music wound by influencing Chinese coun musi when it became a favorite among

Tang emperors. One of the highlights of Heer's latest recording and first CD, "Inheritance," is a song called "Roosler," a story about a roosler awaking his people from darkies

Bo welcome a new dawn.
"The government hasn't said anything to me about the political songs yet," he said, so I don't

That night, Heet brought us to a local teahouse, where he sat in the back room, door shut to prevent the sound of the restaurant's one-man of the synthesizer band from leaking in \$ 1000 Clinton After dinner, Heet tound a dear

in the restaurant. It was warped and out of tune. But when his finger started sliding and twiddling with heavy-metal speed up and down the long neck, the instrument's defect seemed to disappear.

Wailed rooster-voiced lyrics in verberated, the strings crackled brightly beneath his fingers, uptempo melodies flowed out of the door. Heet went on for minutes, a hours: it was hard to tell. For a moment, Kashgar was one, keeping time to a single clock, the dutar.

meion.

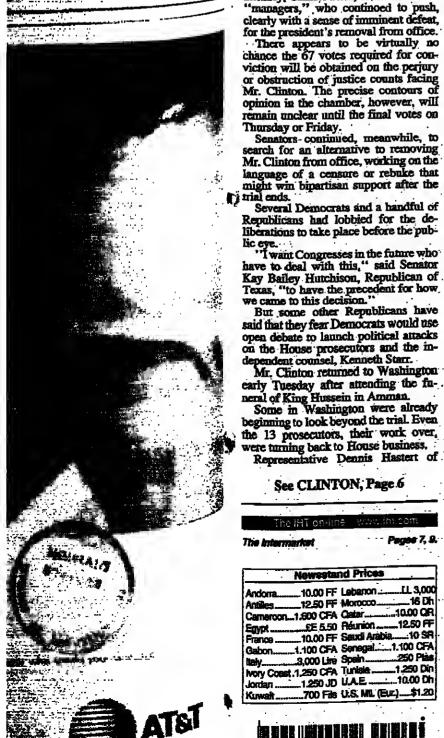
The English Shakespeare Company bet babyish Richard II' featuring abil chandigath's 'Yerna,' a Loreadas checated from Spain to a Punjahis in India. These are a few of practions in theater, music, dancal Tilen to be seen beginning Fridayate Postival of Perth in Australia.

eese: Enter Laughing

minimizer of humor. Clease gave his new mixther the may him. provided that you call of about 1,200 students.

This professor at large — a proper minima. The in expected to be ture in the control of the control of the first of t

ner then an earl or a duke. be joked ? is the course I think that we should move it





Cribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

The World's Daily Newspaper

Paris, Wednesday, February 10, 1999

No. 36,061

Salaryman vs. the Yankee Invader

Once-Sure Jobs at Risk as Ailing Japanese Firms Sell to U.S. Ones

By Sandra Sugawara
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — The ominous warnings are everywhere — in Japanese magazines, best-selling books and popular tele-vision shows: The American boss is coming and your life will sever be the same.

Consider Sara Stanton, Japan's fictional vision of an American boss - aggressive, impersonal and obsessed with profits. "Performance is everything," Ms. Stanton declares in a prime-time television melodrama. The plot: a U.S. company acquires a Japanese bank. Despite years of loyal service, the Japanese employees receive an ultimatum from Ms. Stanton: Bring in new business or risk being fired.

Real American bosses presumably would deliver the message with more finesse. Nevertheless, as ailing Japanese financial

companies sell out to American ones and corporate pillars such as Nissan Motors Co. seek foreign investors, these messages are seeping into the once-insulated Japanese workplace.

Final Debate

To Be Held

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON — The impeach-

ment trial of President Bill Clinton

entered its final phase on Tuesday as

senators voted to hold their final deliberations in secret, but with little doubt

now that they will vote later this week to

A motion to hold the debate before

television cameras and the public failed

by a vote of 59 to 41, eight votes short of the two-thirds required. All but one of

the 45 Democrats voted for open debate.

There was little expectation that many minds would be changed by the senators' comments behind closed doors, which come at the close of a

grueling five-week trial in which the central arguments of each side have

been heard, reheard and heard again.

What did it all add up to? Page 3.

that each member would have up to 15

minutes to speak, which could take the

Senate to late Thursday or early Friday.

But he gently reminded senators that

Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address

in less than three minutes." The Mississippi senator has said that he wants to complete the trial by Friday, when the

Senate is to begin a one-week recess.

Nor did senators' intentions appear to

have been influenced by the closing arguments Monday of Mr. Clinton's lead

attorney, Charles Ruff, or the 13 House

There appears to be virtually no

Senators continued, meanwhile, to

Several Democrats and a handful of

But some other Republicans have

entative Dennis Hastert of

See CLINTON, Page 6

Newsstand Prices

10.00 FF Lebanon ...

SE 5.50 Réunion _____12.50 FF

10.00 FF Saudi Arabia...... 10 SR

12.50 FF Morocco.

The majority leader, Senator Trent Lott, Republican of Mississippi; said

Republicans opposed it by 41 to 14.

In Secret

The defining theme of the Japanese economic system — protecting jobs — is being undercut by global economic forces. Overnight, Japanese employees have been catapulted from a secure world of lifetime jobs and guaranteed raises to

Tokyo urges U.S. to hely Japanese bonds. Page 11.

potentially scary, yet for some workers exhilarating, world of mega-bonuses, faster advancements and abrupt firings. Japanese companies, financially drained after years of sacrificing profits to protect employees, are experimenting with similar changes. But Japanese bosses, conditioned for years to think of employees as family and friends, are trying to phase in employment changes grainally. In contrast, Amer-ican firms swooping in to take over distressed firms often have no such patience or inclination.

See JAPAN, Page 4

Former Prime Minister Laurent Fabins arriving at the special trial Tuesday in Paris.

3 Ex-Ministers Go on Trial in Paris

Court Hears Manslaughter Charges Over AIDS-Tainted Transfusions

slanghter, and "involuntarily attacking

the physical integrity of others" in the cases of seven people who contracted AIDS after receiving blood containing

the virus from government stocks in the mid-1980s. About 4,400 people were

infected with the virus in the scandal,

and about 40 percent have since died.

ministers contested all the charges Tuesday, including the accusation that they delayed testing of blood for the

AIDS virus in order to give a French-

designed test a chance to compete

commercially with an American-made

one that was available months earlier. "I hope this necessary trial will allow us to establish that from what we

knew, we acted in good conscience," Mr. Fabius said in a statement to the

court, which has no permanent build-

Mr. Fabius and the two other former



Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder before a party meeting Tuesday.

By John Schmid

Europe's biggest economy faced another potential setback as the militant IG Metall union edged closer to an in-dustrial strike. Germany's biggest union late Tuesday said that contract talks had collapsed, opening the way for a strike ballot of its 2.7 million members as soon

The prospect of either a strike or an expensive wage settlement could deal another blow to Mr. Schroeder by imperiling his roundtable consensus talks with unions and industry, meant to find a common front to fight unemploy-

The union, which counts autoworkers among its members, canceled all remaining bargaining dates and said its leaders formally planned Thursday to declare the talks a failure. Keeping up pressure on industry, 82,000 workers laid down tools Tuesday and staged protests at nearly 300 plants across Ger-

The Federal Labor Office reported that the number of unemployed people third consecutive monthly increase, from 4.197 million in December. That

With little more than 100 days in office, Chancellor Schroeder's coalitioo to the opposition conservatives.

ber election on a pledge to fight un-employment, January's precipitous rise in memployment refocuses attention on

"The directionless politics of Schroeder's government has left deep imprints on the jobs market, too, after 100 days," said Hermann Kues, deputy oppositioo leader for the Christian Democrats in the Bundestag, the lower

In the wake of the latest jobs figures, "there is now enormous pressure on this government," said Thomas Mayer, senior economist in Frankfurt for Goldman. Sachs & Co.

Although unemployment always rises in winter for seasonal reasons, the president of the Federal Labor Office. Bernhard Jagoda, said that sluggish eco-nomic conditions contributed to Jannary's figures. Mr. Jagoda said he "could not rule out that the current weak phase

in the economy will have an effect on the jobs market. The alarming jump in unemployment obscured some small signs of optimism. After statistical adjustments to strip out seasonal trends, unemployment fell by a deeper than expected 59,000 compared December to a seasonally adjusted 4.092 million. That pushed the adjusted jobless quota marginally lower to 10.6 percent from 10.7 percent.

Jobless Toll Adds To Stress in Bonn

Schroeder Also Is Facing Demands by Militant Union

FRANKFURT — C	ermany's slow-
ing economy has pus	hed nnemplov-
ing economy has pus ment back up to 11.5 p	ercent, officials
reported Tuesday, pr	utting renewed
pressure on the govern	ament of Chan-
cellor Gerhard Schroed an electoral defeat redo	
maneuver.	ACCU IN TOOLII TO

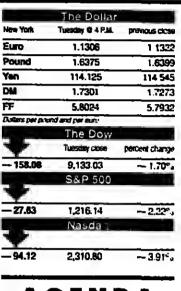
jumped to 4.45 million in January, the pushed January's jobless rate up to 11.5 percent from 10.9 percent in December, the agency said. The jobless toll rose to 18.9 percent in Eastern Germany, and to 9.7 percent in the West.

government of Social Democrats and Greens saw its authority undermined this week by a surprise defeat for its political allies in an election in the state of Hesse. That loss will not only remove Hesse's leftist coalition from the statehouse but from the Bundesrat as well shifting the majority in the upper house

The Bundesrat, which represents Germany's 16 states, can now block legislation, potentially creating political gridlock, with clashing ideologies in each chamber.

After Mr. Schroeder won the Septem-Boan's most urgent domestic issue.

See GERMANY, Page 6



AGENDA

Salt Lake Blames 2 Olympic Aides

The top two officials of Salt Lake City's Olympic bid were con-demned Tuesday by an internal ethics investigation into the biggest corruption scandal in the history of the games.

The report, more than 300 pages long, primarily targeted Tom Welch, who directed Salt Lake's successful bid for the 2002 Winter Olympics, and Dave Johnson, his top lieutenant, accusing them of hidden payments and deceptive practices

Both men, who are no longer with the Salt Lake City committee. have denied wrongdoing. Page 18.

'Shakespeare'-Tops Oscar Nominations

"Shakespeare in Love," a ro-mantic comedy, snared 13 Oscar nominations Tuesday, gearing up to do battle for Hollywood's best pic-ture of 1998 with the World War II epic "Saving Private Ryan," with 11 nominations, "Life Is Beauti-ful," "Elizabeth" and "The Thin Red Line." "Life Is Beautiful" also was nominated as best foreign language film.
The Oscars will be awarded in

Los Angeles oo March 21. Page

U.S. Warns Serbs On Peacekeepers

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Yugoslavia would be making a "big mistake" if it refused to allow foreign peacekeepers into Kosovo and could trigger NATO air strikes as a result, the United States said on

A State Department aide spoke after Serbs had said they would not allow foreign peacekeeping troops into Kosovo under any terms, and won strong backing from Greece, a NATO member and also a neighbor in the troubled Balkans. Page 5.

Sports Pag	es 18-19.
Opinion I	
Crossword	Page 18.
BOOKS	rage 10.

Beijing Pulls Back in Hong Kong Rift

By Philip Segal mernational Herald Tribun

By Craig R. Whitney

- PARIS - France put three former

government ministers on trial Tuesday

on charges of manslaughter and crim-

inal negligence in a blood-transfusion

scandal, a proceeding as politically charged as President Bill Clinton's im-

peachment trial in the United States.
Former Prime Minister Laurent
Fabius and two health ministers who

served under him between 1984 and

1986 denied the charges when they appeared Tuesday before a specially constituted tribunal, the Court of

Justice of the Republic, the first since

World War II to try ministers for

The three are accused of involuntary

crimes allegedly committed in office.

homicide, the equivalent of man-

HONG KONG - China sought Tuesday to cool down what has threatened to become Hong Kong'a first constitutional crisis since the territory was returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

The new dispute represented the second time in a month that the integrity of Hong Kong's legal system has come under question.

In what appeared to be an unprece-dented challenge to Hong Kong's legal and judicial independence, a Chinese cabinet official in Beijing spoke out Monday to denounce a Hong Kong court ruling last month on immigration from the mainland, labeling it a mistake that violated the Basic Law, the former British territory's postcolonial consti-

The comment set off a storm of protests in Hong Kong and warnings by investors that China should not tamper

with the rule of law here. On Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry in Beijing sought to repair the damage.

"The central government has un-

swervingly implemented the 'one country, two systems' policy in Hong Kong,' a ministry spokeswoman, Zhang Qiyue, stressed at a news briefing. 'On this issue, there is no change at all."

dence of this former British colony's Common Law system, which is supposed to operate independently of China most areas except for defense and foreign affairs. From the time China resumed sov-

ereignty over Hong Kong, most people here, including politicians most wary of Beijing, generally agreed that China had kept its promise to stay out of Hong Kong's internal affairs.

ing and sat for the first time Tuesday in

a state-run conference center near the

Arc de Triomphe. Georgina Dufoix, who was minister

of social affairs, and Edmond Herve,

secretary of state for health in Mr. Fabi-

us's government, also made statements

disputing charges that they had delayed

charged with letting unsterilized blood

and blood products remain in stocks

used to treat hemophiliacs for several months in 1985 even though they al-

legedly knew that the untreated products could be infected with the

virus. The two will also answer to

charges of negligence in enforcing

health regulations on screening donors

See FRANCE, Page 5

Mrs. Dufoix and Mr. Herve are

action for commercial reasons.

But with Beijing's declaration that a landmark ruling by Hong Kong's highest court "should be changed," one

See HONG KONG, Page 4

From Prison Cells, an Alliance for a New Era

By Thomas Fuller: International Herald Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR - When they both had their liberty, when they had power and meteoric careers, rarely were their names mentioned in the same breath. But today, from inside their spartan prison cells, Anwar Ibrahim and Lim Guan Eng have found a bond solace for two fallen politicians.

They exchange letters - one each so far about legal reform and their shared vision for the country's future, a far cry from the days when discussing such matters together in public would have been a major political lia-

respondence provides, in a small way, the antecedents of a new era of politics in Malaysia.

"Through it all, despite our differences, I sense that we both share the same reforming

Malaysia Politicans Bond In Their Zeal for Reform

political culture more ethical and moral," Mr. Lim wrote to Mr. Anwar last month.
Mr. Anwar wrote: "I am sure that you are aware that since our misfortunes, even house-

Judge orders Anwar to keep politics out of his defense. Page 4.

schoolchildren have begun to question whether there is democracy and justice in Malay-

In the days when they were free, Anwar Ibrahim and Lim Guan Eng had ambitions and careers as different as their Malay and Chinese ethnic backgrounds.

Mr. Lim was a feisty social activist, considered by many to be the most articulate government critic, challenging the leadership openly and often. Mr. Anwar was a portrait of the establishment, the heir to the top job in governmentbefore he fell out of favor with his boss, Prime Minister Mahathir bin Moha-

Mr. Lim writes his letters from a 3-meterby-2.5-meter cell. There are no country-club prisons in Malaysia's penal system. Common criminals are warded side by side with members of Parliament. Prisoners are given a blanket and sleep on the concrete floor or with a thin mattress.

Mr. Anwar, who is under medication for a stomach ailment, is being kept in the medical ward of a prison a few dozen kilometers

Mr. Lim writes about the "Great Divide of race and religion" in Malaysia and looks to the day when political parties in the country will no longer be based on ethnicity. Mr. Anwar writes about the "oppressive" powers of the political clite: "Our forefathers fought against colonial power for freedom and justice and NOT to be replaced by indigenous oppressors. It's quite paradoxical for the so-called ardent nationalists to use the same draconian colonial laws to stifle dissent and opposition."

See ANWAR, Page 4



Lim Guan Eng being led away to begin his jail term.

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Their letters have been distributed among social activists and members of the political opposition, people who hope that the cor-

Y2K Overreactions Feared

By Barnaby J. Feder
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES - The early fears about the Year 2000 computer problem featured all sorts of machines driven haywire by their inability to read dates in the new year. These included computer networks that control power, water and phone systems that might freeze; railroads, airlines and trucks that might be idled as dispatch and traffic safety systems crash; and the financial universe, from stock markets to payroll systems to automated teller machines, that might 80 on the blink.

That was before tens of billions of dollars were spent on computer repairs and upgrades. Now, a chorus of regulators. Year 2000 project managers and other authorities warn that

people fearing the worst may end up inflicting more serious damage on themselves, their neighbors and the economy than anything the computers do.

Planning experts say those scenarios could include bank runs, boarding of food and gasoline, fires caused by misuse of wood stoves and generators, and a rise in gun violence stemming from the surge in firearm sales.

'As it becomes clear our national infrastructure will hold, overreaction becomes one of the biggest remaining problems." said John Koskinen, chairman of the President's Commission oo Year 2000 Conversion. The challenge is to keep the computer repair work going and prudent preparations for disruptions on track while calming the most nervous

While surveys show most Americans do not expect their lives to be severely disrupted, a significant minority say they are planning big investments of time or money to protect themselves. And the American Red Cross advises the public, as a precaution, to have enough food and other staples on hand to endure disruptions of several days to a

At a meeting in Los Angeles on Monday, the Year 2000 project committee of the National Retail Federation endorsed the Red Cross recommendation. The committee called for retailers and manufacturers to develop campaigns aimed at getting consumers to stock up gradually rather than trying to do so in the last few days of 1999. But the group declined to provide any examples of the kind of supplies it thought citizens should stock, fearing

that being so specific would be too alarming.

Nobody wins if the public freaks out," said Cathy Hotka, the information technology specialist at the federation. The Washington-based trade group includes virtually every major retailing com-pany and trade association. "If the public reacts hadly, you could take a potentially minor situation

and make it a nightmare. Some sectors, like the banking industry, began addressing public fears months ago. The Federal Reserve, which supplies cash to the hanking system. took the lead by announcing its intention to print \$50 hillion in extra currency to assure consumers that banks will have plenty of paper cash.

Individual banks and industry associations have ponsored a wide variety of advertising suggesting that shifting money to the mattress leaves customers more open to theft, fires and scam artists.

Some symbolic gestures have already been announced as well. Jane Garvey, head of the Federal Aviation Administration, has promised to be flying on New Year's Eve as a show of faith in the air traffic control system. Britisb

RETOOLING FOR THE **YEAR 2000**

The growing questions about An occasionnal behavior management highlight a paradox that computer programmers were among the first to realize: the Year 2000 computer problem, also known as the Millennium Bug and Y2K, probably should bave been called something like the Pogo Syodrome after the old comic strip that observed. We have met the

would also be aloft.

Airways announced that nearly

all of its senior executives

After all, humans seeded the Year 2000 problem into the technology landscape by using just two digits in programming dates, such as 99 for 1999, to save expensive memory in the 1960s and 1970s. Warnings that some machines and software would malfunction because they would read 00 as 1900

instead of 2000 were disregarded until fairly re-Now, as the race to minimize the risk enters its last months, the Year 2000 glitch may test people's trust in one another as much as the reliability of their machines. Do they believe that the repair work has been sound and will be completed in time? Will

citizens be neighborly, rather than selfish? A tiny minority is already investing heavily in the belief that the answer to these questions is mostly no. Year 2000 alarmists, religious groups that see the computer problem as a preordained divine punishment and survivalists fleeing for rural fortresses are producing measurable bounces in the sale of dehydrated foods, wood-burning stoves and home

power generators. More telling though is the number of Americans saying they are considering moves that would clearly be unnecessary if the nation's computer networks end up being as reliable as regulators and industry leaders are projecting. Polls show that around 10 percent of citizens expect to withdraw most or all of their money from banks. A Gallup poll

Year 2000 Checklist

Efforts to prepare the public for possible disruptions from Year 2000 computer problems involve a delicate balance between encouraging prudence and preventing panic. Here are some of the steps that the American Red Cross is



controlled electronic equipment to see if the devices may be affected: alarm systems, thermostats, appliances, garage door openers, electronic locks and other equipment that might be controlled by: an embedded computer chip.

Check with makers of computer-

Stock disaster supplies to leist seve days to a week nonpershable foods. stored water, and an ample supply of medications that you regularly use.

As you would in preparing for a storm, heve some extra cash or traveler s checks on hand in case transactions involving ATM cards or credit cards

cennot be processed. Withdraw money from your back in small amounts well before Dec. 31. in case the power fails, plan to use alternative cooking devices. Have extra blankets; coats, hats and gloves to keep wann. Do not plan to use gas-

fueled appliances, like an oven, to keep warm. Be prepared to relocate to a stratter for warmth and protection during a prolonged power outage or if local officials request or require that you leave your home for any other reason.



As you would in preparation

storm, keep your car's flashlights and extra gas tank above half batteries on hand. full.

in December found that 17 percent expected to buy either a generator or a wood stove.

Dealing with mass nervousness is more art than science. Consultants and government officials preach that the best way to calm nerves is to make sure that customers and consumers are inundated with the details of the work being done to reduce

"People ultimately have a lot of common sense, so the real goal is to give them all the information we have," Mr. Koskinen said.

pshot: A Blame Game Heats Up In Ethiopia and Eritrea

By Karl Vick

NAIROBI - In picking up the gun. Ethiopia and Eritrea have not exactly set aside the word. Even as their considerable armies shell, bomb and strafe each other across kilometers of trench lines, the battle to define the frontier between the neighbors in the Horn of Africa is running parallel with a pitched struggle to define who the aggressor is.

In a war being fought in remote, semiarid hills, the most visible front is the public-relations front.

On Monday, both sides agreed on where the real blood flowed: on the same portion of disputed border where war erupted last May and reignited Saturday morning after an eight-mooth cease-fire, and on a second front near the small Eritrean town of Tsorona, gateway to a strategically important larger town

halfway to Asmara, the Eritrean capital. [On Tuesday, Eritrea claimed the upper hand in the war, hut Ethiopian units continued to pound enemy positions and killed five civilians in a predawn bombing raid on an Eritrean village near the disputed border, Reuters reported from Laili Deda, Eritrea.

[Eritrea said it beat back a major Ethiopian offensive along the border Monday, killing at least 1,500 soldiers and wounding 3,000 near Tsorona. "They are sustaining beavy damage, and they are not gaining any ground," a government official said.

[But Ethiopia said it captured two Eritrean strongholds on the Tsorona front during Monday's intense clashes and then held off Eritrean counterattacks. "Eritrean attempts to recapture these key military positions only resulted in further loss and defeat for their side," the government said. There was no independent confirmation of either claim.]

The enemies also agreed that Ethiopia had supported its troops with warplanes and shelled a town called Adi-Quala. Ethiopia claimed to have destroyed a radar station there.

But in the statements issued by each nation, the day's events were secondary to the question that has preoccupied both governments since long before the first shot was fired: Who fired the first shot? The Eritrean Foreign Ministry said

days that the current large-scale attacks were initiated by Eritrea, the Ethiopian government has now been forced to admit
— by the weight of incontrovertible evidence — that it is the party which has unleashed the offensive. Meanwhile, Ethiopia's official

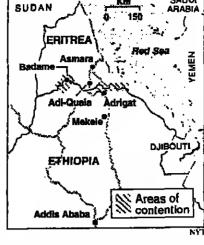
spokeswoman repeated her government's line hlaming Eritrea for the "full- Planet. scale attack" that started it all.

right. Satellite photos betray only troop movements, not the opposing fire that might have provoked them. Intercepts of vised to remain indoors. military radio transmissions surely could if gathered by U.S. eavesdropping apally. And the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict involves not one ally, but two.

"We're trying to stare down the middle," an Africa specialist in Washington said. "There are no bad guys. They're all friends of ours who have

temporarily taken leave of their senses." Each country clearly craves the moral high ground. Analysis agree that both sides are so preoccupied with the ques-tion of who fired first because almost nothing else about the conflict is clear. The border dispute at the nominal heart supported by competing colonial maps. And the dynamic between the formerly friendly nations — part of the same country until Eritrea became independent nearly six years ago — is as nuanced, personal and bitter as any family feud.

Yet both sides appeared truly shocked when the crisis erupted in May. After a violent but tiny skirmish, President Issaias Afwerki of Eritrea sent tanks to occupy land that had been more gently claimed by each country for years. Since then, the lines on each side have hardened - diplomatically, with the failure of peace attempts by the United States, the



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quently when fighting hroke out in May. Ethiopian officials stewed when their air strikes on the Eritrean capital dominated the first television images of the conflict. Days later, Eritrean officials winced at coverage of their own planes bombing civilians at Mekele in northern Ethiopia. a strike that hit a primary school.

In the truce that followed, Ethiopia courted sympathy by printing full-color posters of the carnage and distributing equally graphic booklets, but it expressed impatience with international criticism of its policy of forcibly expelling Eritrean

citizens by the tens of thousands. Eritrea, meanwhile, was widely viewed as stalling, repeatedly asking for "clarification" of the OAU peace plan that Ethiopia accepted early on. In the new year, Ethiopia announced its impatience in terms that grew steadily stronger, so that when fighting broke out it was widely assumed to have been launched from the Ethiopian side.

Avalanches Hit French Chalets In Wide Storm

PARIS - Avalanches buried 11 Monday, "After claiming for the past two chalets on Tuesday just north of the ski resort of Chamonix in the French Alps, killing two people, the police reported, and five others were listed as missing.

About 200 rescue workers, some using sensors and others with dogs, were

searching for any victims trapped in wooden chalets or under the snow in the villages of Le Tour and Montroc-le-

Train services were canceled between The world may never know who is Chamonix and St. Gervais because of fear of avalanches. Several highways were also closed and people were ad-

It was part of a cold snap and heavy tell the story, but such intelligence, even snowfalls throughout much of Europe, disrupting air, rail and road traffic in paratus, rarely becomes public in African Switzerland and causing a death in Scot-wars, especially those that involve a U.S. land, the police and weather services land, the police and weather services said.

Yvonne Davidson, 34, died when she slipped and fell on an icy sidewalk in Broxhum, near Edinburgh, the police said. It was unclear whether she died instantly or lost consciousness and froze to death.

Heavy snow in Switzerland nearly paralyzed the country's main airport at Zurich-Kloten, where only four aircraft were able to take off.

The Swiss-French airport at Basel-Mulhouse suspended up to two-thirds of flights scheduled for Tuesday.

Employees calling work to say they would be late saturated cell-phone networks, the national operator Swisscom

Between 80 and 100 centimeters (32 and 40 incbes) of snow fell in the Swiss mountains, increasing the risk of avalanches.

In the canton of Valais, alpine snow came crashing down in three avalanches. One buried six chalets in La Fouly, hut the police said they believed the houses

Iris Murdoch, Inventive Novelist, Dies British Empire, she rarely won the at- lodramatic, offering bemused records of

appearances.

erature and modern ideas.

tention given to gaudier contemporaries.

She spent much of her career quietly

Along with novels, she produced a

By Richard Nicholls New York Times Service

Iris Murdoch, 79, a prodigiously in-entive and idiosyncratic British writer tours, prize committees and television ventive and idiosyncratic British writer whose 26 novels offered lively plots, complex characters and intellectual speculation, died Monday at a nursing half-dozen works on philosophy, several plays, poetry and critical writing on lithome in Oxford, England.
Her struggle with Alzheimer's dis-

ease was documented recently in "Elegy for Iris." a memoir by her hushand of 42 years, the critic and novelist Jean-Paul Sartre, studied with Ludwig John Bayley, who was at her bedside when she died.

Miss Murdoch's first novel was published in 1954. Her fiction received the nature of good and evil. many honors, including the Bonker Prize for "The Sea, the Sea," the Whitchine" and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for "The Black Prince."

Marius Schoon, Apartheid Foe

FOR INVESTMENT

INFORMATION

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THE MONEY REPORT

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THE STREET PARTY NAMED IN

New York Times Service
JOHANNESBURG —

Schoon, 61, an opponent of apartheid who had been fighting an amnesty application by the police spy who killed his wife and daughter with a mail bomb, a saboteur or political prisoner, but as a died of lung cancer Sunday. The death was announced by Hugh

Lewin, a friend who spent seven years in prison with Mr. Schoon. Both of them were convicted on sabotage charges. Mr. Schoon was one of a rare breed for

whom police and prison guards reserved special contempt.

their eyes, had turned his back on his casion to spy for the security police.

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Wittgenstein and was a lecturer in philosophy at Oxford University - and her fiction grappled with such questions as

philosophy --- she knew and wrote about

This led many who knew her work superficially to assume that her novels bread Literary Award for Fiction for were philosophical explorations of the The Sacred and Profane Love Ma- origins of morality and behavior and too esoteric or intellectually rigorous for a orial Prize for "The Black Prince." general audience. In fact, many of Miss Although she was made a Dame of the Murdoch's novels are exuberantly me-

own white people to campaign for equal rights for the black majority. Although he tried to blow up a police station in 1964 and served 12 years in prison for

particularly sad and bitter victim of the apartheid government. In 1984, his wife, Jeannette, and their daughter, Katryn, 6, were blown up in front of his 3-year-old son. Fritz, in their house in exile in Angola. The man who sent the bomb, Craig Williamson, had ment and grief.

ment and grief.

She was, Miss Murdoch confided to one of her friends, "sailing into the darkness." Mr. Bayley's descriptions of sent the bomb, Craig Williamson, had

romantic or erotic follies as well as more somber hattles between individuals representing moral good and its opposite.

Far from viewing fiction as another and lesser way of dealing with philo-sophical questions, Miss Murdoch argued that literature was meant "to be grasped by enjoyment" and that the art of the tale was "a fundamental form of Miss Murdoch had a background in thought" in its own right.

The ideal reader, she told one inter-

viewer, was "someone who likes a jolly good yarn and enjoys thinking about the book as well, about the moral issues." Her belief in literature had its in-

ception in her happy and book-filled childhood. Jean Iris Murdoch was born in Duhlin on July 15, 1919, the only child of Anglo-Irish parents. When she was a year old her family moved to London, where her father. Wills John Hughes Murdoch, joined the civil service. In interviews, she remembered that as a child she had existed "in a perfect trinity of love." In 1995, she told an interviewer that she was experiencing severe home in England a few months ago. writer's block, saying that the struggle to write had left her in 'a hard, dark place." In 1996 Mr. Bayley announced that sbe had Alzheimer's disease. If "Elegy for Iris" offers a moving evocthe crime, Mr. Schoon was not famous as ation of a great love story, it also provides a grim record of watching the personality of a loved one gradually dwindle under the burden of fear, baffle-

his struggle to understand his wife's pretended to be a friend and had once suffering, to find ways to ameliorate it stayed with them. But be used the occasion to spy for the security police.

Suffering, to find ways to ameliorate it stayed with the physical demands of his new responsibilities and

TRAVEL UPDATE

American Cancels 730 Flights

Delta Tries New Web Promotion

midday trading on Tuesday. (Page 12)

Correction

sociated Press.

900931007



understand the conflicting emotions aroused in him by the experience are exact, penetrating and unsparing. Miss Murdoch became like "a very nice 3year-old," ber husband said, and she needed to be fed, hathed and changed, The note on which the book concludes, however, is one of reconciliation

not sailing into the dark: The voyage is over, and under the dark escort of Alzheimer's, she has arrived somewhere. So have L'

Europe

FORT WORTH, Texas, Feb. 9 (AFP) - American Airlines said it canceled nearly a third of its scheduled flights Tuesday as pilots stayed off the job to press claims in a burgeoning A statement by AMR, the airline's parent company, said the carrier canceled 730 of its 2.250 domestic and international flights after grounding 500 planes on Monday. Labor negotiations resumed oo Tuesday afternoon. On Wall Street, shares of AMR fell 1 5/16, to 55 11/16, in WASHINGTON (WP) - Just days after ahandoning its effort to collect \$2 for every round-trip flight that wasn't booked on its Weh site. Delta Air Lines Inc. is offering Weekly Web Fares" for anyone making a reservation on the company's Internet site. Starting this Wednesday. Delta said it will offer 'deeply discounted' fares for the following weekend to a variety of U.S. destinations. Passengers using the Web fares would be able to depart each Saturday and return on the following Monday or 2790 1898 pc 2892 1762 1253 pc 2088 2066 848 5 2373 1579 541 pc 1966 1457 591 a 1854 2770 744 c 2075 2770 1050 c 2472 1152 134 pc 248

WEATHER Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by Acculventher. North America

Very mild from Atlanta to New York Thursday, winds will affect Italy and Showers and thunders winds will affect Italy and Showers and thunders winds will affect Italy and Thursday and Friday; not storms will crostler the area Friday. Much colder this from former Yugoslava to with rain and wind; nicer by weekend with some anow possible in the Northeast. Sunny end warm in the Southwest Mild in the Midwest Thursday; blustery Europe. Ory and cold showers A bit of Thursday; blustery cay.

Temperose High Low W Cif CF 49/18 -15/8 sn / 22/71 846 r 11/62 446 r 14/67 -32/7 sh 0/52 -12/11 s 11/62 2/35 17/80 17/82 pc 21/79 4/39 1 21/70 7/44 pc 27/80 18/64 pc -1/31 sh -7/20 e 16/61 pc 4/38 e 16/61 pc 3/37 s 4/39 pc -1/31 pc -4/39 c -6/24 c 8/43 e

Africa Latin America Oceania

A report in Tuesday's editions on the Kosovo peace talks incorrectly attributed to Reuters a quotation from a member of the Serb delegation characterizing the draft text as "horrifying." The characterization was reported by The As-Imprime par Offprint, 73 rue de l'Évangile, 75018 Paris ه وا من الاجل

were empty. There were no immediate reports of injuries. Swiss and French trains reported United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, as well as militarily.

The high ground changed hands frereports of injuries. many late arrivals. A train derailed in Frasne, eastern France; there were no

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JAVI00 150

ime Heats Up ia and Eritre



quently when fighting broke out in the Ethiopian officials stewed when the strikes on the Eritrean capital domination images of the control o the first television images of the control Days later. Eritrean officials wave coverage of their own planes bond-civilians at Mekele in not them Ether

. LOWE

two Er-

ret short?

a strike that hit a primary school In the truce that tollowed, Edit counted sympathy by printing full of posters of the carrage and display equally graphic booklets, but texps impatience with international cries its policy of forcibly expelling Fig-

Eritrea, meanwhile, was viewed as stalling, repeatedly asking "clarification" of the OAU pears that Ethiopia accepted early on he may year, Ethiopia announced to patience in terms that grew are stronger, so that when fighting broke it was widely assumed to have launched from the Ethiopian side

Avalanches H French Chalet In Wide Storm

chalets on Tuesday just northotik. resort of Chamonis in the French Ailling two people, the police ign and five others were listed as misse

About 200 resent workers with ing sensors and others with degree searching for any victims impawooden chalets or under the snown villages of Le Tour and Monn

Train services were canceled be who is Chamonts and St. Ciercas becaalso closed and people was to temam indoors.

. If was part of a cold snap mil owfulls throughout much of Es spring an, rul and real trib perfand and causing a dealing ind, the police and weather on

Yvone Davidsen, it deluks ipped and tell on an icy sideral Bronburn, near Edenburgh, de 8 said. It was unclear whether it instantly of kest derive tourness and

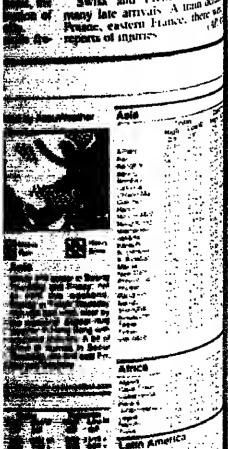
Honey snow in Switzerland paralyzed the country's manage Zurich Kloten, where only for 25

ere abic to take off The Swiss French airport uthouse suspended up to most Bighas scheduled for Tuesday wees calling work is s would be late saturated cell plan weeks, the national operator See

Between Sit and 100 centure and all enches of snow fell mile mountains, increasing the tisk it

in the canton of Value alp Same Starting Gove it to three man One buried six chalets in La hab the police and they believed the were empty. There were no les

Switz and French half visiny late arrivals. A min do rusae, eastern France, the erects of interior



THE AMERICAS

The Upshot: A Case Full of Trivia and Lacking in Evidence

By Ruth Marcus Nushington Post Service

months since Kenneth Start's report triggered the impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton, the facts have been endlessly rehashed, the gaps in the evidence stitched together and picked apart, the constitution's framers invoked to endorse both prosecution and de-

by the charges against Mr. Clinton remains: The House managers offer strongest argument that Mr. Clinton the Senate a perjury case that is at its most convincing when it is also most trivial, and an obstruction case may be to contemplate that a presturbing light but that is ultimately grand jury, removing him from of-

By James Bennet

New York Tunes Service

Bill Clinton will being no bongo

most certainly in acquittal - Mr.

Clinton will not surround himself

And notwithstanding any past

WASHINGTON - President

When his impeachment trial ends - probably later this week and al-

Bedtime for Bongo

If Acquitted, Clinton Will Not Exult

with grinning Democrats and de-clare himself exonerated, his aides contrite enough.

WASHINGTON — In the five the case, as both sides presented ton touched Monica Lewinsky or their final arguments in one the strangest legal pro-

snippets that was all argument and no evidence, unfiltered by one side or another.

With the trial straggling to a Yet, the essential riddle presented seemingly foregone conclusion of that portrays the president in a dis- ident lied under oath to a federal

and you rebuild." But some Clinton advisers are bemoaning two trips the president plans to make shortly after

the expected vote — first to Mexico ("All right, tequila!" declared one

adviser, doing a passable Clinton imitation) and then to New Hamp-

or does, some aides believe, critics

No matter what the president says

What can he do?" a senior aide

shire to rally Democrats.

contrite enough.

what month their dalliance began.

In other instances, the evidence paying attention when his lawyer recited false information at the Paula Jones deposition and whether he came up with his strained un-derstanding of the definition of "sexual relations" on the spot at the deposition or only concocted it after

All of that may have contributed to the House managers' decision to play down the perjury charges during the Senate trial and concentrate and to infer, even if they credit Ms. Lewinsky's detailed story-over Mrs. Currie's hazy recollection, that Mr.

founded on dueling accounts and disputed inferences.

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So it went in the cli his relationship with Ms. Lewin-

The obstruction case presents a NEWS

ceedings in the annals of American law, a trial by video

in ourse instances, the evidence of the obstruction case presents a continuous scenario that is deeply troubling but to offer conclusive proof — for example, of whether Mr. Clinton was highly circumstantial.

For example; the allegation that

Mr. Clinton obstructed justice by arranging for the return of gifts that he gave to Ms. Lewinsky and that were subpoenaed in the Jones lawsuit requires senators to decide be-

tween Ms. Lewinsky and the president's secretary, Beny Currie, about who initiated the gift retrieval

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Linda

Consequently, the obstruction

charge presents a somewhat shaky platform on which to erect the case that senators should oust a popularly elected — and still hugely popular - president.

In making their cases, neither prosecution nor defense was dealt a particularly attractive hand.

House prosecutors were plagued by frustrating gaps in the evidence and damaged by the failures and omissions of the lawyers who had gone before them. In particular, they were hobbled by the botched de-position of Mr. Clinton in the Jones case, where the lawyers failed to nail down presidential evasions with logical follow-up questions and, most significantly, refused to ask Mr. Clinton directly what exactly he did with Ms. Lewinsky, Instead, they used a convoluted definition of sex that allowed the president to argue later that he was telling the truth under his contorted understanding of the term.

The managers sustained another injury to their case when the House rejected the article of impeachment accusing Mr. Clinton of lying at the deposition. And although the managers sought to resurrect those charges by saying Mr. Clinton hed before the grand jury when he said he told the truth at the Jones deposition, they had a scanty transcript on which

to hang that perjury charge.
For example, Mr. Starr's prosecutors did not directly ask Mr. Clinton during their grand jury session whether he told the truth at the deposition when he told lawyers for Ms. Jones that he was never alone with Ms. Lewinsky, an omission that made the managers' task more difficult and was a matter of no small relief to Mr. Clinton's lawyers,

The managers were also undercut by the immutable fact that the key witnesses in their case against the president - Mrs. Currie, Vernon Jordan Jr. and to some extent Ms. Lewinsky herself - were committed to seeing him remain in office and that their testimony was, as Representative Edward Bryant, Republican of Tennessee, said of Ms. Lewinsky last week, "very guarded in each response and almost protective" of the president.

Finally, the prosecutors were hamstrung by the House's failure to conduct at the impeachment stage - and the Senate's consequent unwillingness to provide at trial - the kind of full factual development that might have filled in some of the perplexing holes and convinced wavering jurors.

POLITICAL NOTES

Dole Cites Her Conservatism

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire - In her first speech as a possible contender for the Republican presidential nomination, Elizabeth Dole recalled her three decades of public service as proof that she is a goodhearted but firm conservative who could restore integrity to the U.S. government.

There's been a little speculation that I might run for president," Mrs. Dole said Monday before a dinner crowd of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce. And if I run, this will be an important reason why: Because the United States of America deserves a government worthy of her people."

Addressing critics who contend that she has never had to take stands on issues, Mrs. Dole said improving public education was her top priority and cast herself as a Reagan-style Republican who favored lower taxes, returning control to local government and strengthening the military. "Reagan conservatism wore a smile, and it was contagious," said Mrs. Dole, who resigned as president of the American Red Cross to explore running for president It imagined the good in everyone, and brought out the best in millions. It was optimistic, futuristic.

Quote/Unquote

And now let us all take our place in history on the side of honor, and, oh, yes, let right be done.

— HENRY HYDE, the chief House prosecutor

Would it put at risk the liberties of the people to retain the president in office? Putting aside partisan animus, if you can honestly say that it would not, that those liberties are safe in his hands, then you must vote to acquit.

— CHARLES RUFF, White House counsel

Away From Politics

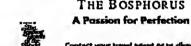
· Two in every five women and about a third of all men in the United States suffer sexual dysfunctions ranging from lack of desire to inability to reach orgasm, according to a University of Chicago study.

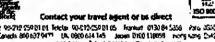
• Eli Litty and Co. said in Washington it had introduced a series of new easy-to-use insulin pens for diabetics after receiving Food and Drug Administration approval. The pens would make it easy for patients to give themselves doses anywhere and at any time. (Reuters)

• The U.S. Air Force said it would spend \$54 million on television ads to try to bolster enlistment.

A Great Location









asked, insisting that Mr. Clinton recexuberance by this serial political ognized the error of his ways. "It's escapist, count on this: He will not almost as if people want him to curl almost as if people want him to curl be glimpsed in public during the up in a ball and be catatonic."

Weekend chewing a cigar.

Another aide, speaking on Another aide, speaking on con-

With Republican congressmen dition of anonymity, said: "We're fretting that Mr. Clinton will ballyhon the outcome of his trial, his aides have begun debating whether we're probably going to drop in the he should say anything at all after polls, too, because a lot of the people the Senate votes on two articles of who are for us now just hate what's That dehate is a proxy for a broad-The image of Mr. Clinton as

er discussion over how Mr. Clinton snickering scapegrace, reveling like sbould act in public — and govern — when the trial ends, but while the Bugs Bunny in the flummoxing of his pursuers, has become embedded cloud of impeachment, lies and not only in Congress but also in the proven caddishness lingers.

Joe Lockhart, the president's spokesman, has declared the White an actor portraying Mr. Clinton in-

House a 'gloat-free zone,' and he sisted last weekend on the NBC insisted that no one would feel jolly, television program 'Saturday Night only relieved.

'There's nothing to celebrate secretary, Betty Currie, boogied in bere," Paul Begala, the president's the Oval Office. "It is a serious counselor, said Monday. "Saying dance of soul-searching and con-

to blame but himself, or his Re- life but that he intended to serve publican critics, depending on one's point of view.

Last April, after a federal judge threw out Paula Jones's sexual misconduct lawsuit against the president, be was photographed through a botel window in Dakar, Senegal, with an unlighted eigar in his moutb and a bongo drum in his hands.

The president was just examining native wares as he did some private sbopping, aides said. But the drum has become a metaphor, often invoked these days on Capitol Hill, for Clintonian gloating. Senate Republicans and even

some Democrats also complain about what they call Mr. Clinton's 'pep rally" on the White House lawn after he was impeached on Dec. 19. The president stood before two busloads of applauding Democratic members of Congress to say that you win this is like saying you trition."

that he accepted responsibility for Democrats have taken the same win an earthquake. You survive it

As usual, Mr. Clinton has no one what be did wrong in his personal view.

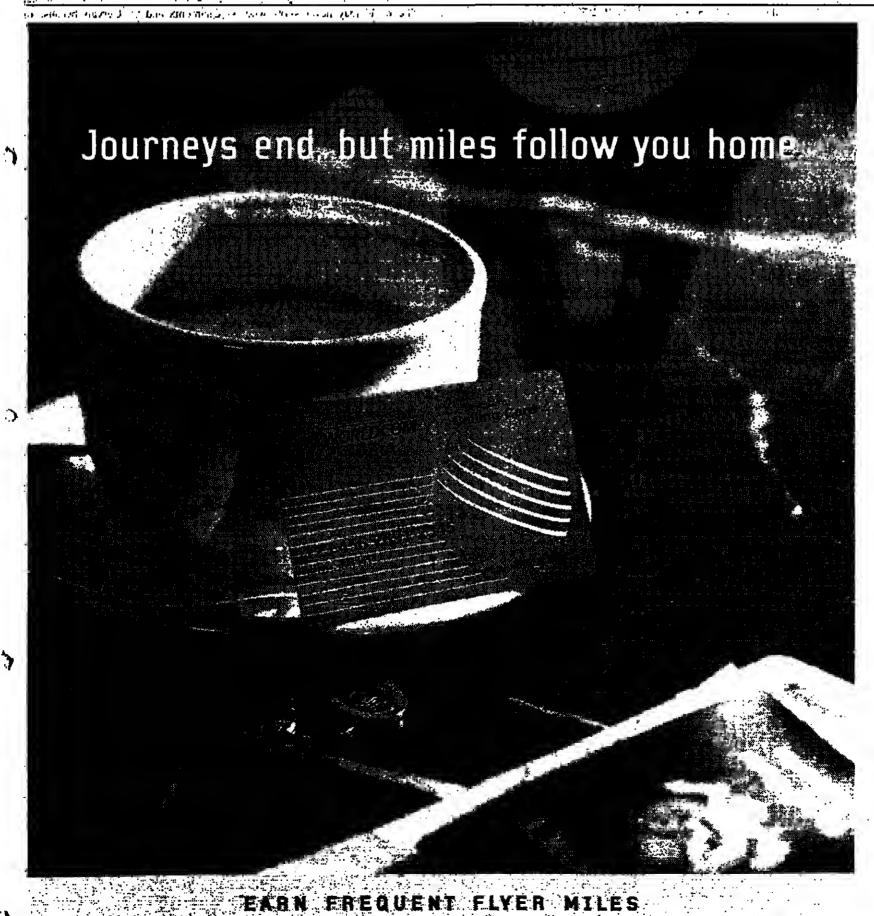
"until the last hour of the last day" of his term. The event's tone was actually

fairly somber. The conservative American Spectator editorialized this month that it was "more like a wake where sadness was diluted by consternation owing to the corpse's insistence that he be allowed to mix with the bereaved,"

Mr. Clinton was trying to underscore the partisan nature of the split impeachment vote in the House of Representatives. He also wanted to demonstrate that he had political support against the argument that because be bad been impeached, he should resign.

The president's aides charge that Republicans are misrepresenting the lawn event as a pep rally so they can huild support for a strong censure resolution, even though some

for Business Travellers



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Netherlands (CC) ◆ 0800-022-9122 # Belgrum (CC) ◆ 0-800-10012 # France (CC) ◆ To call using CWC # 0500-89-0222 By Mark Landler

KUALA LUMPUR - For a few brief moments in a courtroom here Tuesday, Anwar Ibrahim provided a rare glimpse into the debates that raged in the Malaysian capital last year as the Asian financial crisis devastated the country's currency and throttled its economy.

former deputy prime minister, said that he and his boss, Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, had major differences about how to respond to the "financial convulsion engulfing the region."

Mr. Anwar said that during this period of escalating tension, the police had initiated an aggressive invesogation into his personal life.

But before Mr. Anwar could elaborate, the judge cut him off, declaring that Mr. Anwar could not could cite evidence of a political conspiracy to defend himself from charges that he had abused his authority. The ruling by Judge Augustine Paul knocks out a central plank of Mr. Anwar's defense and leaves his legal prospects looking bleak.

Mr. Anwar, who was ousted and imprisoned in September, contends that the corruption and sex-related charges against him were trumped up by his political enemies following hitter policy disputes with Mr. Mahathir.

A political conspiracy, if any, against the accused is not relevant," said the judge, rejecting an impassioned plea by Mr. Anwar's lead lawyer.

Political analysts and lawyers bere said the ruling was a potentially grievous setback because the trial is as much a political battle as a criminal case. If Mr. Anwar is not allowed to discuss the conduct of Mr. Mahathir and other Malaysian officials, they said, he will have to defend himself against narrow charges that he sought to quash a police investigation.

Solution of the would have preferred to have the solution by Mr. Anwar, while has given conflicting testimony.

the conspiracy included because Anwar would have had a lot to say," said C.V. Prabhakaran, a lawyer who sat in on the hearing as a representative of one of the defense witnesses. Asked whether Mr. Anwar's lawyers could marshal an effective defense in light of the ruling, he said, "Looks like no more."

Mr. Anwar's lawyers insisted that their client still had a case. They said they Tesofying for the second day in his sex and corruption trial, Mr. Anwar, the information that Mr. Anwar was prepared to discuss on the witness stand.

"If we can't show it to the court, we'll show it to the people," said Gurbachan Singh, one of Mr. Anwar's attorneys.

But in this country of oghtly controlled news media, getting Mr. Anwar's message out is not easy. While local newspapers carry ample coverage of the trial, they tend to dwell on the lurid nature of the charges against him. nature of the charges against him.
Indeed, the prosecution has been able

to wage a powerful campaign in the court of public opinion. The charges against Mr. Anwar originally linked his purported cover-up attempts with his alleged sexual misconduct. For weeks, the prosecution ostentatiously displayed in the courtroom a mattress that they said contained semen stains from Mr. Anwar.

After the prosecution wrapped up its case two weeks ago, the judge amended the charges to drop the alleged sexual misconduct. As a result, the government now has only to prove that Mr. Anwar meddled in the police invesogation. It also means Mr. Anwar's lawyers cannot challenge the sex charges.

The sex case against Mr. Anwar seemed to be weakening in any event. On Tuesday, one of the five men allegedly sodomized by Mr. Anwar retracted his statement. The man, Mior Abdul Razak, said he had been "forced and threatened by the police after his arrest" to make false statements. Two of the other five men also retracted claims that they were sodomized by Mr. Anwar, while a third



Octavio Soares, an East Timorese student activist, center, arguing with a bystander during an anti-independence demonstration Tuesday.

Student-Police Scuffle in Jakarta

The Associated Press

JAKARTA - Anti-riot officers detained at least 40 student protesters Tuesday who had tried to march to Parliament to demand a trial of former President Suharto, Police and soldiers scuffled with some students as they carried them to two trucks, but there were no injuries. Authorities said they planned to release them after questioning.

About 100 protesters had gathered before security forces broke up the demonstration, saying organizers had no permit to protest. The activists chanted anti-Suharto slogans and said they wanted an investigation of the military's killing of at least nine campus activists during protests for political reform in November.

■ Rebel Leader to Leave Jail

Indonesian officials have said that Mr. Gusmao would be allowed to participate in finding a solution for the territory of East Timor, which Indonesia invaded in 1975 and annexed the following year, a move not recognized by the United Na-

The move is seen as a response to mounting international pressure to release him from prison to smooth efforts to end the dispute over East Timor's

A prison official announced Tuesday that the jailed East Timorese rebel leader, Xanana Gusmao, will be moved to house arrest. Renters reported.

New Test for Indonesia June Elections Offer Promise and Risk

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

JAKARTA — Despite a deep recession and chronic violence, Indonesia is preparing to hold general elections on June 7 that seem likely to be the freest and fairest since the country's last, shortlived experiment with democracy in

Yet the very fact that many of the old constraints on political activity have been lifted following the end of 32 years of autocranic rule under former President Suharto in May makes the conduct of the elections and their outcome not only more uncertain but also potentially destabilizing, analysts say.

Adding a new element of controversy to the campaigning that will officially start in May, a leading Indonesian newspaper reported Tuesday that the governing Golkar party is likely to nominate president B. J. Habibie, Mr. Suharto's successor and former protégé, as its candidate in presidential elections in November.

In a speech Tuesday, Mr. Habibie did not confirm that he would be a can-

He said he was determined to hold elections that were "as fair and honest as possible," adding that "whoever wins, we must accept them with a big heart."

Although Mr. Habihie has been oraised by many foreign governments for his steps to improve human rights and civil liberties in Indonesia since he came to office, he is regarded as a weak and discredited head of state at

Opinion polls show he is very un-popular, well behind several prominent opposition leaders.

As a result, some Indonesian analysts say that Mr. Habihie should have announced long ago that he would not be a presidential candidate, thus making it more parties. clear that he would be impartial in overseeing the installation of the democratic system that he has promised.

Still, dozens of new political parties began to register Friday for the first time in nearly three decades - a sure sign that they expect the revised political laws adopted by Parliament on Jan. 28 to give them a real chance of gaining

After talks with opposition as well as government leaders in Indonesia last week, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs. Static for East Asia and rache analysis squabling intensified after an election heard a few complaints from the opposition camp, "they felt that under this set of laws not only could they compete, right.

The economy deteriorated Then but they would compete.'

Under Mr. Suharto, only three parties were allowed — Golkar and two "opposition" groups, the Muslim-oriented United Development Party and the In-donesian Democratic Party, encom-continued.

passing former nationalist and Christian

Officials expect more than 140 parties to register for the June elections, although they say only about 30 will qual-

ify for the contest. Although there may yet be hitter contention, analysts agree that the process for selection of eligible parties, voter egistration and the conduct of polling is no longer easy for the government to

manipulate in its favot. "This is an entirely new election, the likes of which we haven't seen in Indonesia since the 1950s," Mr. Roth

"You have a free press. You have multiple parties that will have observers all over the country. You have an agreement that there will be international monitors. Still, many analysts worry that with

the economy of the world's fourth most populous nation in crisis, millions of people out of work and living in poverty, widespread ethnic and religious tensions, and the once powerful armed forces unable to keep the peace, the elections could easily degenerate into violence and chaos.

Harry Tjan Silalahi, deputy chairman of the board of directors of the Center for Strategic and Internacional Studies, said there was a risk that compenove elec-tions could rekindle disputes and vi-

"Yet a general election is necessary," On the said. "It's the jury for settling political differences and putting in place a legitimate government to run Indonesia for the next five years."
Under Mr. Suharto, Golkar election

victories by an overwhelming majority were a foregone conclusion. Now, even Golkar officials concede that the most likely outcome of the June voting will be a coalition government formed by two or

Agreeing that the era of Golkar dom-inance had ended, the Indonesian state secretary and presidential spokesman, Akbar Tanjung said in an interview that "we understand that no single party will get 50 percent of the seats in Parlia-

But be said that Golkar expected to get 'much support' in the elections, and would be ready work with other parties to form a workable coalition.

Opposition leaders express similar sentiments. But the historical precedents are not encouraging. In 1955, political squabbling intensified after an election

The economy deteriorated. Then President Sukarno and the military took control, ushering in a long period of "guided democracy," a euphemism for the authoritarian rule that Mr. Suharto

broeder Set Mase Stand

Taiwan Hands Over 5 Hijackers of Chinese Airliners to Beijing as enabling the hijackers to be home for the Feb. 16

Chinese hijackers to the Communist mainland Tuesday in a goodwill gesture seen as easing hilateral tensions ahead of a high-level meeting in Taiwan.

pirates who have hijacked mainland airliners to the Nationalist-ruled island in the 1990s but held four hack after one attacked a Taiwan official while en route hack to China.

The nine were flown to Taiwan's fortified island of Jinmen, where five were put on a Chinese Red Cross boat for the short passage to Xiamen, three kilometers

Taipei described the move in humanitarian terms still imprisoned in Taiwan.

TAIPEI — Taiwan handed over five paroled chinese Lunar New Year, even though they would be in custody. None of the nine had served their full prison terms, but all had become eligible for parole. Plans to return them were seen as a gesture to

Taipei had planned to repatriate nine of the air improve the climate for a visit hy a senior mainland envoy to Taiwan, which may take place in April. The visit by Wang Daohan, Beijing's top Taiwan envoy, would reciprocate for a trip to Beijing in October hy Koo Chen-fu, a Taiwan official.

In Beijing, Zhang Qiyue, a government spokeswoman, sidestepped questions about how the hijackers would be treated on their return and called anew for Taipei to hand over five mainland air pirates .

Sixteen mainlanders hijacked 13 airliners to Tai-wan from 1993 to 1998, 12 of them in a 1993-94 spate that led to a sweeping overhaul of China's airport

Still in Taiwan's custody is Yuan Bin, a pilot who embarrassed Beijing by commandeering his Air China jet with 104 passengers to the island in 1998 to highlight what he said were poor working conditions at the state carrier.

On Saturday, Taipei repatriated two children who had been brought along when their parents hijacked

Because Beijing does not recognize Taiwan's criminal verdicts, the returnees face retrial on the mainland and the probability of even longer prison terms.

LETTERS: Unlikely Correspondents

Continued from Page 1

To be sure, there is more than a good dose of political grandstanding in their letters. But there is also perhaps some-thing more simple: kinship, exchanging letters with someone in the same predicament.

While the age of the Internet and fax machines has humbled the notion of the ordinary letter, in the seclusion of a prison cell, inmates are as pleased to get mail as a homesick child in summer

They mean very much, very very much." said Syed Husin Ali, a polincal prisoner for six years in the 1970s, referring to letters in prison. "Every time the warder comes around with mail he will be shouting from a distance, 'Surat! Surat! Surat! 'Leners! Leners! Letters! "And everyone will rush to the front of the cell, each waiting eagerly to

Both men discuss their court cases and the reasons for their incarceration. Mr. Anwar, 51, was dismissed by Prime Minister Mahathir last September and was charged with sodomy and cor-

ruption. He has been denied bail. Mr. Lim, 39, is serving an 18-month term for publishing and distributing a pamphlet that criticized the government. He started his sentence last August.

Taken together, the ordeals of the two men have changed the way Malaysians view their government. Mr. Anwar's arrest led to street protests and a general uncase among the often well-traveled, well-educated Malaysian middle class.

'In some ways,' Mr. Anwar wrote

Mr. Lim. "our incarceration has helped open the eyes of Malaysians to the injustices in our system, and thereby to rouse them from their complacency and encourage them to participate more meaningfully in the political process."

Mr. Lim went to prison after a judge refused to overturn his conviction for printing and distributing a political pamphlet that a lower court had ruled seditious. The pamphlet criticized the government's decision not to press statutory-rape charges against a former senior government official.

The pamphlet questioned why a schoolgirl involved in the scandal - she was 15 at the time — had been detained in the case but not the official, who was then regarded as a protégé of the prime

After hearing the final ruling, Mr. Lim stood stone-faced in the dock, surrounded by weeping women: his wife, his mother and other family members. He gave his wife everything he would not need in prison --- car keys, wallet and suit coat. He placed his national identity card in his shirt breast pocket and turned to face a group of reporters crammed against the wooden railing of the dock

ees made the cut, moving over to the nearby modern, plush offices of Sa-'I will hold up the handcuffs that will be placed upon me not as a symbol of lomon Smith Barney Inc., which is

terminated, but my political struggle will go on." The sentence disqualified Mr. Lim from Parliament for five years from the date of his release. He was handcuffed and led away.

A few weeks after Mr. Lim began his jail term, Mr. Anwar was dismissed, a move that shocked the country. Mr. Anwar was considered the man who would lead Malaysia into the 21st century.

The ousted deputy prime minister fought his dismissal with protests around the country, climaxing in a demonstration of tens of thousands of people in the center of Kuala Lumpur. He was arrested and beaten by the police, leaving him hadly bruised.

A week later he was charged with sodomy and corruption. His trial is nearing completion, but there is more to come.

"There are other charges against him that have not yet been proffered," Mr. Mahathir said recently. "Whether he is acquitted or not, he will have to face

If Mr. Anwar is convicted be might join Mr. Lim at Kajang prison in a sim-ilar cell. Mr. Lim seems to think so, anyway.
"Prison authorities here in Kajang are

making feverish preparations for your cell even though your trial is still con-tinuing," Mr. Lim wrote Mr. Anwar.



Anwar Ibrahim being carried on

the shoulders of his supporters shortly before he was arrested at his they can be so certain of your impending home in Kuala Lumpur last year.

Handshake May Show One's Grip on Life

Reuters

CHICAGO — A firm handshake may mean a healthy old age.

Researchers reported on Tuesday

that a 25-year study of more than 6,000 Japanese-American men living in Hawaii found that hand grip strength has oeen to correlate with the strength of other predictor of physical disability in later of overall strength, the study said.

"Hand grip strength was highly predictive of functional limitations and disability 25 years later," said the study published in this week's issue of

the Journal of the American Medical

Continued from Page 1

HONG KONG: China Relaxes Its Stand

of the key parts of what has made Hong Kong's relationship with China work until now appeared to be under threat. 'This is potentially the worst news to

come out since the British and the

Chinese first sat down to discuss the return of Hong Kong," said Martin Lee, the leader of the opposition Democratic Party, Hong Kong's most popular opposition group.

The court ruled last month that an

immigration law hastily passed in the first few days of Chinese sovereignty in Hong Kong was unconstitutional, a decision that paved the way for several hundred thousand children in China to immigrate to this territory of 6.5 million people.

If China should get its way and its Parliament overturns the decision of the Hong Kong courts, "then there goes rule of law in Hong Kong," Mr. Lee said.
"This is not a time bomh," he added.

"It is the atomic bomh." Under the Basic Law, the constitution that China drew up for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, as it is now known, the Court of Final Appeal has jurisdiction over whether most cases are constitutional.

The Basic Law can be amended, but doing so could open an avenue that Beijing may not want explored, as pro-democracy parties have been calling for amendments to introduce a greater degree of electoral representation in the Legislature.

Leading figures in the business and legal communities called for a quick resolution to stem the growing sense of crisis. The former head of the Securities and Futures Commission, Anthony Neoh, said Tuesday in a newspaper article that the legal controversy over the court decision "could potentially damage the authority of our courts and, in turn, the integrity of our legal system."

Last week, a single statement by the secretary for justice, Elsie Leung, ex-plaining why she refused to prosecute a high-profile publisher with close links to

Beijing, led to a call for a motion of

In this case, three senior employees of publisher Sally Aw's English-language newspaper Hong Kong Standard were convicted of conspiracy to defraud, after falsely inflating circulation figures for

The furor arose when the secretary for justice, Ms. Leung, revealed that one of the reasons she declined to charge the publisher was that a guilty verdict might have been bad for husiness and could have caused job losses.

The ensuing controversy has thrown open the doors to charges of the kind of cronyism that still predominates in much of the rest of Asia.

"People will say we have a different law for the rich," said Mr. Lee, the Democratic Party leader. The chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association, Ronny Tong, said that Ms.

Leung's statement would do "immense damage to Hong Kong's image."
In an editorial, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post, a competing paper, roasted Ms. Leung's reasoning:
"By the same logic, property companies should never be charged with building faulty apartments because any such trial would undermine confidence in an im-

portant sector of the economy. As in the case of the court decision, there is a Beijing connection in Ms. Aw's case. As head of the Sing Tao publishing group, she runs newspapers that support many of China's policies regarding Hong Kong. She has pub-lishing deals in China and she is a member of the Chinese People's Consultative Conference. She is well-connected in Hong Kong, too. The territory's chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, once served

on her company's board of directors. Ms. Leung, the secretary of justice, has

JAPAN: The Specter of an Invasion of American-Style Economics Is Rattling the System

Continued from Page 1

Consider the deal between Citigroup Inc. and Nikko Securities Co., Japan's third-largest brokerage, hilled at first as a union of two mighty brokerage firms, as East meets West. But it soon became lapse, Nikko had no choice. About 400 of Nikko's 8,000 employ-

to generate new corporate business.

"When news of the deal hit us, we became despondent, not being able to cope with the shock," one Nikko worker said. He was not asked to join the new company, Nikko Salomon Smith Barney, clear that the real purpose of Cingroup's and suspects it was partly because his S1.6 hillion investment was to buy English is weak. Indeed, a source close to English is weak. Indeed, a source close to Nikko's corporate client list and its star Cingroup said that in jobs where emperformers. Teetering near financial col-English language skills are important.
At Toho Mutual Life Insurance Co.,

start and perhaps allow employees to gradually rebuild the company.

But the more aggressive GE Capital culture prefers quick to gradual. And GE Capital's urge to move fast was helped by a clever deal it struck, giving it the ability to fire without having to take the blame.

GE Capital basically bought Toho's op
Merrill Lynch & Co. has tried to attack erations, but not its financial problems. Under the agreement, 1,973 Toho Life employees were "loaned" to a new company, GE Capital Edison Insurance. The English skills are less critical. Most insurance sales are to Japanese families. So when U.S.-based General Electric

ers that Citigroup thought were unlikely investment would give the firm a fresh hollowed-out Toho Life had no jobs to

the cultural issues head on, spending three months training about 2,000 employees from the failed Yamaichi Securines on pany, Git Capital Edison Insurance. The contract had a clause allowing GE Capital to cancel the employee contracts and send them back to Toho.

Much to the charter of the contracts and send them back to Toho. American-style investment advisers will shame but as a symbol of pride and honor," he said in a quivering voice. "My political career may have been in selling stocks to individuals and oth-

BRIEFLY

China Cuts Ties With Macedonia

BEUING — China severed diplomatic ties with Macedonia on Tuesday over the Balkan state's decision to establish relations with Tai-

wan, the Xinhua cress agency said. The move threw into question the future of a UN peacekeeping force stanoned in Macedonia. A mandate for the UN force, which was deployed to deter the spread of fighting to Macedonia from other parts of the former Yugoslavia, expires

Feb. 28. China, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, has threatened to veto a renewal of the mandate because of Macedonia's ties with Taiwan. China considers Taiwan part of its territory.

U.S. Denies Offer To North Koreans

WASHINGTON — The United States denied Tuesday that it was planning to offer food to famine-stricken North Korea in exchange for permission to visit an underground building site that could be part of a revived nuclear program.

"Our policy is to provide food on a humanitarian basis and we do not link it to other issues," a State De-partment official said. He added that the World Food Program had sent out an appeal for food aid for North Korea for this

year and the United States had not responded to it. The U.S. response will be based only oo an assessment of the humanitarian needs of North Korea.

which has suffered several years of

famine caused by floods and drought, he added. (Reuters)

Cambodian Chief In China for Talks

BELING — Prime Minister Hun Sen of Cambodia arrived in Beijing on Tuesday for talks with Chinese leaders amid speculation on whether China will block international efforts to prosecute Khmer Rouge leaders.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswom-an, Zhang Qiyue, did not say wheth-er China would wield its veto power in the UN Security Council to prevent the formation of an international tribunal. Such a tribunal could reveal embarrassing details of China's cooperation with the Khmer Rouge when it ruled Cambodia with terror.

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EUROPE

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Officials expect more than 140 pane to register for the June elections at though they say only about 30 will qual ify for the contest.

Although there may yet be bitter con tention, analysts agree that the procession, analysts agree that the procession of eligible parties, voic registration and the conduct of pollings no longer easy for the government in

manipulate in its favor.

This is an entirely new election to likes of which we haven't seen in ladonesia since the 1950s. Mr. Roly Said.

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You have a free press. You have multiple parties that will have observer. all over the country. You have an agre-ment that there will be internation monitors.

Still, many analysis worry that wa the economy of the world's fourth me populous nation in crisis, millions of people out of work and living in poven widespread ethnic and religious to sions, and the once powerful arms forces unable to keep the peace to elections could easily degenerate in violence and chaos.

Harry Tjan Silalahi, deputy charms of the board of directors of the Centerin Strategic and International Studies, SM there was a risk that competitive eletions could rekindle disputes and

Yet a general election is necessary," he said. "It's the jury for settling polis ical differences and putting in place, legitimate government to run Indones for the next five years.

Linder Mr. Suharto, Golkar elector victories by an overwhelming majoris were a foregone conclusion Now, era Golkar officials concede that the mos likely outcome of the June voting will a coalition government formed by page more parties

king it. Agreeing that the era of Golkar don-**KICCIALIC** inance had ended, the Indonesian six secretary and presidential spokesman Akbar Tantong said in an interview ha we understand that no single party w get 50 percent of the seats in Parls te men

> But he said that Golkar expected logs much support in the elections, in would be ready work with other pane to form a workable coulition

> Opposition leaders express similar sentiments. But the historical precedes are not encouraging. In 1955, police sombbling intensified after an elector in which no party won a big enough majority to form a government in uson

The economy deteriorated To President Sukarno and the military of control, ushering in a long period democracy, "a euphemistic the algebraic fraction rule that Mr. Colonia pritazion rule that Mr. Sukan

BRIEFLY

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U.S. Denies Offer -> To North Koreans

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a humanitanian basis and we don't link it for other results. A State le He added that the World for perment edicted said

Program had sent out an appeal to the dark and feet North Korea to the year and the United States had a

The U.S. response will be head proportion to it many on an decessment of the le-

which has suffered accordingly decought, he added

Cambodian Chief In China for Talks

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1,000 Strike After Belgrade Seizes Milosevic Foe's Plant

By Paul Watson Los Angeles Times Service

thousand ICN Pharmaceuticals Inc. workers walked off the job Monday to support their boss, Milan Panic, in his fight to take back a factory seized by the Yugoslav government.

But the police here turned the screws still tighter on the company's rebels in Kosovo Province. Yugoslav subsidiary by arresting six of his local vice presidents, Mr. Pan-

"I think this is not about business anymore," Mr. Panic, chairman and nationalists opposed to the Kosovo chief executive officer, said in a peace talks in France and to plans for telephone interview Monday from Hungary. "This is violating the human rights of these people. This cannot be left unpunished."

ICN Phramaceuticals is based in Panic and his general manager, Costa Mesa, California. The govDusan Mittevic, left no doubt they

with assault rifles entered the plant BELGRADE — More than a Saturday to impose new management. Mr. Panic is a former Yugoslav prime minister and political rival of the Yugoslav president,

Slobodan Milosevic, who is fighting U.S.-led pressure to make a permanent peace with ethnic-Albanian Mr. Panic sees the government's move, which he labeled a nationalization, as part of an anti-American campaign stirred up by Serbian

putting about 30,000 NATO troops in Kosovo if a deal is reached. Although they refused to blame Mr. Milosevic by name, both Mr.

'You have to keep in mind that the main way this government functions is through personal authority,"
Mr. Mitevic said. "Only one personality has power here. All others are executors." The state-run Health Fund of Serbia owes the Yugoslav subsidiary more than \$176 million that the government said in July it behind Mr. Panic, he maintained. would not pay, he added.

In seizing the factory, the Yugoslav Federal Ministry of Health alleged that the company had chase control of the plant, according organizing trade unions. to Bloomberg News. The govern-

Mr. Panic promised a year's full pay and benefits to employees who

swear allegiance to his ownership, stop working for the new managers and sign a boycott pledge. About 80 percent of the plant's 2,000 staff stayed away Monday and

The government insists that 1,600 cople returned to work. The Serbian health minister, Leposava Milicevic, said that many were failed to make investments as re-former employees who had been quired by a 1991 agreement to pur- laid off or fired by Mr. Panic for

The factory is Yngoslavia's ment agency said the company was largest drug manufacturer and, until obliged to transfer \$220 million in Friday, was its biggest privately drug patents to its Yugoslav sub-sidiary in addition to investing \$50 75 percent control from the

ernment seized the Yogoslav sub-sidiary Friday, and the police armed believed that the Yugoslav president million in cash. The company says it Yngoslav government in 1990. Fol-sidiary Friday, and the police armed was behind the seizure of the plant. has made all required investments. lowing the seizure Friday, the govlowing the seizure Friday, the government claimed it now owns 65 percent of the company.

■ U.S. Condemns Seizure

The United States condemned the takeover of the Belgrade plant on Monday, calling it an attempt by Mr. about 1,800 signed a promise to stand Milosevic to silence his democratic opponents, Reuters reported from

The State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said the seizure was clearly an attempt to silence Mr. Panic and avoid payment of the money owed the state owed. He said Washington was demanding "that the Serbian government cease its actions against ICN Yugoslavia."

"We will continue to press this issue in Belgrade and Washington at the highest levels," he said.



NATO Far From Ready On Kosovo Deployment

Planning of Key Peace Element Is Delayed

By Jane Perlez New York Times Service

RAMBOUILLET, France — As tion, officials said. peace talks in the Kosovo conflict continued Tuesday, the plans for using NATO troops — a key element of an agreement — were lagging far behind, Clinton administration and NATO officials said. How a force of the North Atlantie

Treaty Organization would be deployed and discussions over what anthority it would have in Kosovo were far from final even though a two-week deadline has been set for the talks, the officials said on Monday. The slowness in deciding the shape of

Kosovo report to the six-nation Contact gave the NATO commander huge Group, officials said, The group, which consists of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and the

United States, is running the peace talks

Schroeder Set To Ease Stand On Citizenship

BONN - Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, weakened by a surprise elec-tion defeat during the weekend, said Tuesday he was ready to compromise with the opposition on a reform of the

citizenship law. Mr. Schroeder said the defeat of his Social Democratic-Greens coalition in the state of Hesse on Sunday and the resulting loss of the government majority in the upper house of Parliament meant there would be changes to the

Mr. Schroeder backtracked from his goal of giving 4 million long-term foreign residents German passports, de-claring, "There will have to be clear limits placed on dual citizenship."

His comments were made in an interview in Wednesday's edition of the Sueddeutsche Zeitung, on sale late Tues-

day.
"Dual citizenship will not be made available indefinitely to foreigners, but rather for a limited time period," he added. With the loss of his majority in the Bundesrat, the upper house, "we bave been forced to make a deal," he

Mr. Schroeder said he believed the government's tax reform plans, already passed by the Bundestag, or lower house, would be endorsed without changes by the upper house March 19.

The Social Democrats and their

Greens coalition partners will maintain their 38-seat majority in the 69-seat Bundesrat until a new government is formed in Hesse, expected in April.

Mr. Schroeder's center-left government wanted to reform the country's 1913 citizenship law, which is based on bloodlines, by giving long-term foreign residents German passports and allowing them to keep their original nation-

Interior Minister Otto Schily said the government still planned to offer German citizenship to millions of foreign residents but acknowledged that his original bill, due to be voted on this' summer, might now have to be

"It is our aim to modernize the citizenship law," Mr. Schily told Stern magazine in a preview of an article to

"We have repeatedly said we are ready to talk," he said. "I am open to any constructive suggestion." He added, however, that a compromise would

The original bill would have allowed many foreign residents, mostly Turkish immigrants, to become German while retaining their existing passports.

Arguing that this unfairly disadvant-"native" Germans, the Christian

Democrats launched a nationwide petition against the plan and say they have collected more than 1 million signatures. Volker Ruche, a leading Christian Democratic politician, said many in his party would be prepared to back a citizenship reform if widespread dual citizenship rights for adults were removed "dual key" situation created by the Bos-nia peace accord. In that agreement, the United Nations could veto NATO ac-

Such a dilution of NATO authority would be intended to make the force in Kosovo more inviting to Russia, which is taking part in the Kosovo talks, and to the Yngoslav leader, Slobodan Milosevic, who is under pressure to accept NATO troops as part of a deal, the officials said.

The lack of decisiveness on how NATO forces would operate in Kosovo, even as the peace talks are under way, contrasts sharply with the strategy during the Dayton negotiations that ended the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1995. a NATO force mostly reflected France's There, the warring parties were presenunsuccessful effort to have a force in ted with a NATO military plan, which powers in Bosnia, as soon as they entered the talks.

Late last month, France, the host to the talks here, insisted at a meeting of the 16 NATO members that the Contact Group Giving the group power over NATO have oversight over any NATO air forces would be similar to the kind of strikes against Serbia. But after 10 hours of debate, France lost its case.

At the meeting, NATO authorized air strikes against Serbia if Mr. Milosevic failed to support a peace accord that negotiators are trying to forge now be-tween the Serbs and the ethnic Albani-

France, Britain and the United States have said that foreign troops are necessary to buttress a peace agreement involving political autonomy for

France and Britain have announced that they will send troops to Kosovo on condition that a peace agreement is reached. The United States has been less definitive. President Bill Chinton has said that he was "seriously considering' sending a contingent of American soldiers that would be smaller than any European contingent. But other NATO members have not committed them-

selves to contributing troops. Other uncertainties involve the op-crations of a NATO force. A draft of a military annex to the proposed peace agreement ascribes much greater powers to an international group of unarmed monitors than NATO military experts want. This draft annex has not been presented at the peace talks but is under discussion at NATO headquarters in

Brussels, officials said. The annex states that during the three years that the peace agreement is expected to run, the Serbian security police, who have been suspected in most of the atrocities against ethnic-Albanian civilians, would be under the control of the Kosovo Verification Mission.

The mission is made up of unarmed monitors run hy the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, or

According to the draft, the Serbian security forces would be required to reduce their numbers to 2,500 and would carry out "only normal policing duties at the direction" of the head of the veri-

fication mission. The security forces now number about 11,000, in violation of a 10,021 ceiling set in October, a NATO military

official said. The Yugoslav Army has about 15,000 soldiers in Kosovo, a province of Serbia, which together with Montenegro makes

up Yngoslavia. One of the many unanswered questions, a NATO diplomat said, was how

the security police would be disarmed and their units sent out of Kosovo. It was clear, the diplomat said, that unarmed monitors of the verification

mission would not be capable of taking heavy weapons from the security po-"I fail to see how the OSCE could

control the Serhian security forces without NATO help," he said. And it was unlikely, the diplomat said,

that countries contributing to a NATO force would want their soldiers working on such a potentially dangerous assignment unless NATO had undisputed military command. ·

Another problem facing a NATO contingent in Kosovo would be how to disamn the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army, which has become skilled at classie guerrilla hit-and-run tactics. Kosovo is potentially a much messier

situation than Bosnia for NATO, officials said. Unlike Bosnia, which was sovereign yet which NATO could essentially control, Kosovo would remain part of Serbia during the three-year accord that is envisioned in the talks. Kosovo's borders would still be patrolled by the Yugoslav Army, giving and vice president of the Azeri Oil Co. liance with Islamic fundamentalist NATO much less control. "No matter how strong the Armenian Iran.



Families of victims waiting Tuesday to enter the Paris court venue in the tainted-blood trial of three ex-ministers.

FRANCE: Trial of 3 Former Ministers Over Tainted Blood Begins

Continued from Page 1

to exclude those with a higher than average probability of having AIDS, such

as homosexuals and prison inmates. case. Agnes Cochin, whose baby boy, Charles-Edouard, got a transfusion for possible sentences of up to five years, jaundice after birth and died of AIDS at plus fines of up to \$90,000.

the age of 5, appeared as a witness Tuesday and angrily asked if the three ministers were not ashamed of the suffering they had caused.

At least a thousand people who were speaker of the lower house of Parlia- immunity of government ministers. infected by blood transfusions under ment, stepped aside from the post but did government auspices, many of them hemophiliacs, have since died, including is expected to last three weeks. If confive of the seven victims named in the victed, he could be sentenced to up to three years in prison; the ministers face

Yeltsin Goes to Office Again; All Is 'Normal,' Doctor Says

MOSCOW - President Boris Yeltsin went to his Kremlin office on Tuesday and his doctors said the Russian leader. contrary to speculation, was feeling

Concern was aroused Monday when Mr. Yeltsin departed early from the funeral of King Hussein of Jordan in Am-

Mr. Yeltsin's trip to his office was only the third so far this year. The purposes was to meet with Defense Minister gor Sergeyev to discuss financing for the armed forces, officials said.

Mr. Yeltsin returned to Moscow Monday night after Jordanian officials said he had received medical aid before leaving Amman. There was no explanation on what kind of aid he got, if any.

President Yeltsin's spokesman, Dmitri Yakushkin, denied Tuesday that the president had received medical treatment. "There was nothing like that," he said in a radio interview. He did not explain wby the president had cut short

The chief Kremlin physician, Dr. Sergei Mironov, said Tuesday that "everything was normal" with Mr. Yeltsin, according to the Itar-Tass news agency.

been difficult for Mr. Yeltsin because he was still recovering from an ulcer but that he was otherwise in good health.

The Kremlin attempted Tuesday to play down speculation about a rift between President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov.

Moscow has been filled with speculation that Mr. Primakov or some of his ministers may be dismissed for seeking too much power.

Such dismissals would plunge Russia into a major political crisis at a time when the government is still struggling to deal with the fallout from the political and economic crisis that began with cur-

rency devaluation last August. Mr. Yeltsin spent about six hours in the Jordanian capital. As other national leaders were filing past King Hussein's coffin in a palace, Mr. Yeltsin emerged, got into his limousine and was driven

Hours later, President Yeltsin arrived in Moscow looking tired but walking from the plane without assistance. He was greeted by Prime Minister Primakov, who has taken over many of the president's day-to-day duties in re-

The court that is trying them was established in 1993 after a wave of public indignatioo, in the midst of a sea of political corruption cases developed by Mr. Fabius, 52, a Socialist who is now zealous prosecutors, about the effective

Even today, the president of the re-public, now Jacques Chirac, a conservative, is immune from criminal prosecution for any reason during his sevenyear term of office, a privilege affirmed only last month by the country's highest administrative tribunal, the Constitu-tional Council. That body is headed by former Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, himself under investigation in a bribery and kickback scandal involving France's largest oil company, Elf Aquitaine SA.

The Court of Justice is the first in the 40-year history of the Fifth Republic that can try government ministers for alleged crimes committed while they were in office. It consists of 12 legislators, five of them members of the governing Socialist Party and seven from opposition conservative parties, plus three professional judges, with one of them, Chris-

tian Le Gunehec, presiding. Other courts have convicted four lower-ranking officials in previous trials, and 32 people are awaiting trial on various charges relating to deaths or

iliness after transfusions.

Defenders of Mr. Fabius, once considered a leading contender for the French presidency, say that he is being unfairly made a scapegoat for a tragedy in which he was as much a victim as the patients

who became infected with the disease. The prime minister was not informed by his subordinates until April 29, 1985, associates say, about the possibility of systematic testing of blood and blood products for the AIDS virus.

He was not aware then of discussions about delaying a decision so that Diagnostics Pasteur, a Freuch laboratory, could market a test that could compete with an American one that Abbott Laboratories was ready to introduce in France the previous month, his defenders say.

Workers protesting at the Zemun ICN Galenika Co. plant outside Belgrade after the government seized it.

BRIEFLY

N.Y. Official Keeps Pressure on Bank

NEW YORK — The New York City comptroller, Alan Hevesi, said Tuesday he was not yet ready to withdraw his objections to the proposed merger between Deutsche Bank and Bankers Trust, saying he first needed to see a wrinen agreement settling Holocaust claims

against Germany's biggest bank. Mr. Hevesi, speaking at a press conference, said he would continue to mouitor the Holocaust negotiations and wanted to see a report in 30 days from officials involved in trying to settle the Nazi-era claims against Deutsche Bank. But he said, "We're not here to give Deutsche Bank a hard time.

The Deutsche Bank chairman, Rolf Breuer, in a German television interview, said the biggest-ever takeover of a U.S. bank would make no economic sense if delayed too long, and that new revelations about its past should not lead to fresh claims.

Schroeder Attempts To Save Pair in U.S.

HAMBURG — Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder has asked President Bill Clinton to spare the lives of two German brothers sentenced to death for killing a bank manager in Ari-

zona in 1982. In an interview with the weekly magazine Stern, released Tuesday, he has sent letters to Mr. Clintou and Governor Jane Hull of Arizona asking that the death sentences be converted to life in prison. He said he was also prepared to call the gov-

emor personally.
"I want to do everything I can that can save a life, even in such a difficult case," he was quoted as saying. He added that he opposes the death penalty even for the most serious crimes. Germany has no

death penalty. Karl LaGrand, 35, is scheduled to be executed Feb. 24 and Walter LaGrand, 36, is scheduled to die

Mrs. Clinton Urges Family Freedom

THE HAGUE - Hillary Rodham Clinton urged governments Tuesday to abandon family planning programs that amount to "co-ercion" and allow women to make

their own reproductive decisions. "Today, I hope we can agree first and foremost that government has no place in the personal decisions a woman makes about whether to bring a child into the world," Mrs. Clinton said to applause from delegates at The Hague Forum, an international population conference.

"That is a decision that should be made freely and responsibly without government coercion," she said, referring to governments that ban abortion outright, severely limit family planning services or, like China, enforce strict limits on fam-

As Jews Woo Azerbaijan, Armenians Feel Left Out

By David B. Ottaway and Dan Morgan Washington Past Service

WASHINGTON - The Jewish and Armenian communities in the United States, linked by similar immigrant experiences and memories of repression and genocide, have usually lobbied side by side in Washington's foreign policy battles to defend similar interests of Israel and the state of Armenia,

That is what made a dinner in the State Room of the Mayflower Renaissance Hotel last Nov. 18 such an eye-catching

At the podium was a senior leader of Azerbaijan, a Muslim country recently engaged in war with neighboring Armenia. He was praising prominent Jew-ish American organizations for supporting an end to seven-year-old U.S. economic sanctions on Azerbaijan. "We now have a lobby in the United

nity," said Ilham Aliyev, son of the

Azerbaijani president, Heydar Aliyev,

"No matter how strong the Armenian Iran.

lobby is, I think the Jewish one is stronger.'

In one of the more unusual realignments among foreign-policy lobhies working Capitol Hill, six Jewish American groups decided early last summer to take on the influential Armenian Assembly of America to clear Azerbaijan's name in Congress and end sanctions imposed in 1992 at the urging of Armenian Americans.

Spokesmen for the Jewish American groups say they are only upholding the strategic interests of Israel, which seeks to forge friendships and alliances with secular Muslim countries that border Israel's two principal enemies, Iran and

Jewish support for Azerbaijan dovetails with Israel's deepening security aland cultural ties with Azerbaijan. States and that is the Jewish commu-

liance with the secular Muslim state of Turkey, which itself has close linguistic And while Israel has been busy bonding with Muslim Turkey and Azerbaijan,

the ancient Christian land of Atmenia

has forged an even more unusual al-

For Israel, and for the United States, Iran has been a major security threat. For Armenia, Iran is a friendly neighbor and major trading partner.

The Armenian-Jewish split between two of the best-organized and financed Washington lobbies reflects the shakeno of alliances taking place among Middle East nations and their newfound friends in the Caucasus and Ceotral Asia as a result of the Soviet Union's col-

Suddenly, Israel has been able to forge alliances with the two Muslim countries that Armenia regards as its principal enemies.

Evidence of the falling-out surfaced last September during a two-hour House floor debate over a section of the 1992 Freedom Support Act that has prevented Azerbaijan from obtaining direct U.S. assistance, at a time when Armenia has remained among the top recipients of

In imposing sanctions seven years ago, Congress cited Azerbaijan's blockade of Armenia, which has continued despite a 1994 cease-fire between the two warring nations.

Since then, the United States has poured hundreds of millions of dollars of aid into Armenia but has limited assistance to Azerbaijan to humanitarian aid, despite lobbying by U.S. oil companies, which have their eyes on Azerbaijan's oil, on behalf of a more

evenhanded policy.
The six Jewish American groups helped Azerbaijan to obtain some relief. but the pro-Armenian lobby stymied the campaign led by Representative Bob Livingston, Republican of Louisiana, then chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, to scrap the sanctions

legislatioo altogether. Even 17 of the 23 Jewish members of the House were among the 231 who voted to keep the sanctions on Azerbaijan.

'That should be shocking to the Jewish organizations," remarked Ross Vartian, executive director of the Armenian Assembly. "Those groups don't lose many issues in Washington, and they did .

this time.' Officials of the Jewish American groups ascribe their defeat to a hasty, last-minute lobbying effort.

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By James Risen and David Johnston New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Chemists who examined soil, sludge and debris samples from a Sudanese pharmaceutical plant that was destroyed in August by American cruise missiles found no traces of chemical weapon compounds, according to a scientist hired by the owner of the plant.

The findings, though prepared privately for lawyers for the owner, who is now seeking redress from the United States, raise new questions about the Tullius, chairman of the chemistry degovernment's reliance on tests of soil samples from the site obtained clandes-Empta, a precursor used in the production of deadly VX nerve gas.

The United States attacked the Al Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum

In Iran After

The Associated Press

Agents Are

Parliament, the radio reported. .

Mr. Khatami has appointed Ali Yunesi, the chief military prosecutor, to replace Mr. Dorri-Najafabadi, reported the iran Daily.

In his resignation letter to Mr. Khatami, Mr. Dorri-Najafabadi, 54, said

he hoped his resignation would bring about a more suitable atmosphere at the

ministry and would not be a pretext for

"vindictive enemies and uninformed

"The hard-working employees of the Intelligence Ministry did not and will not

approve the recent tragic and unfortu-

nate incidents that would make any bon-

orable human being unhappy. I, too, was

The murders were followed by "cruel

and hostile attacks" hy enemies inside

and outside Iran against the "country's

great intelligence and security appar-

ministry were behind the killings inten-

sified the rivalry between hard-line and

Both sides, locked in a bitter power

struggle, have tried to distance them-

selves from the killings. The agents be-

hind the killings are widely believed to

be supporters of the hard-liners. The

Intelligence Ministry is controlled by the

The government has said that "for-eign elements" had masterminded the

killings. It denied that senior officers had

approved the murders. The first victims, Dariush Foruhar and

his wife, Parvaneh, who belonged to a

minor opposition party, were found stabbed to death in their Tehran home on

Nov. 22. In the following weeks, the writers Mohammed Jafar Pouyandeh

and Mohammed Mokhtari disappeared

and their bodies were found dumped on

the ourskirts of Tehran. A third writer,

Majid Sharif, was found dead after dis-

appearing from his home.

hard-line faction.

atus," wrote Mr. Dorri-Najafabadi.

moderate factions in thegovernment.

friends" to harm the ministry.

was broadcast on Tehran radio.

radio reported.

exile Osama bin Laden after the bombings of two American embassies in East Africa. U.S. officials have said that the bin Laden terrorist network was behind the bombings of the diplomatic missions in Kenya and Tanzania. Mr. bin Laden has denied any role in the bombings.

At the heart of the new evidence are 13 carefully caraloged samples taken from the wrecked plant and its grounds late in October. The sampling project was designed and supervised by Thomas partment at Boston University.

tinely by the CIA. American officials carefully and scientifically collect had said the samples contained traces of samples from a variety of locations and have them analyzed by one of the top laboratories in the world for this kind of work," Mr. Tullius said in an interview. "What they found was that in those

In response to the new findings, Clinton administration officials said they stood by their decision to strike the plant. The officials dismissed the findings of chemists working on behalf of the plant's owner, Salih Idris, noting that their soil samples were taken long after the United States obtained its soil from the site and long after the bombing and rains could have dispersed incriminating evidence.

Moreover, while acknowledging that they did not know that Mr. Idris owned the plant at the time of the attack, other runent at Boston University.

U.S. officials say they now have strong
"The point of what we did was to evidence linking him to Mr. bin Laden. "We stand by our evidence indicating

a spokesman for the National Security Council at the White House. "We stand by our evidence linking this plant to tinue to believe that this was an appany, Kroll Associates, was hired by Mr. propriate action to pre-empt Osama him Idris's lawyers to conduct a detailed Laden from further attacks against the review of the Shifa controversy. In their United States."

In the study for the owner, several ground locations at the plant were surveyed, along with interior sites in the plant that were covered by debris and partly protected from rain. One location. historical record of the chemicals flushed through the plant drains.

The lah analysis found that none of the

Empta, nor did they find Empa, the sub-sidiary compound into which Empta rapidly breaks down. Empta, Mr. Tullius the presence of a chemical weapons pre- said, breaks down within days, but Empa cursor at this plant," said P. J. Crowley, remains in the soil, and even in small quantities would be detectable for weeks or months after contact with the ground. In addition to the evaluation of the soil

and suspected terrorist training camps near Khost. Afghanistan, on Aug. 20 in an effort to curb the activities of the Saudi an effort to curb the activities of the Saudi and suspected terrorist training camps samples, to the practical limits of science of the samples, to the practical limits of science of the samples, an international security company, Kroll Associates, was hired by Mr.

Osama hin Laden's network. We consumpted that this was an appropriate action to pre-empt Osama hin Idris's lawyers to conduct a detailed report, made available to The New York Times, Kroll Associates found no evidence of a direct link between Mr. Idris and Mr. bin Laden.

The scientists and investigators were hired by the law firm of Akin, Gump, a septic tank, was found intact and Strauss, Haner & Feld, which represents provided what Mr. Tullius said was a Mr. Idris, a Sudanese-born Saudi husinessman. The firm has long had a reputation of influence in Democratic circles. But its credentials have not benefited samples contained detectable levels of Mr. Idris. The firm's lawyers have been flatly rebuffed in their efforts to present

their findings to the White House and several government departments.
"We've been confronted with the

problem of proving a series of negatives that there was no Empta at the plant and that Idris was not a terrorist," said Mark MacDougall, a partner at the law firm.

BRIEFLY

Taleban Won't Tell Bin Laden to Leave

ISLAMABAD - The roling Taleban said Tuesday that the Saudi dissident Osama hin Laden was free to leave Afghanistan but that he would not be forced out, the Afghan Islamic Press reported.

The decision by the leadership of the Taleban, the Islamic group that controls most of Afghanistan, followed the latest U.S. request for Mr. hin Laden to be expelled, a Taleban spokesman said. The spokesman said the Taleban was still waiting for evidence to support allegations that Mr. bin Laden was a terrorist

Mr. bin Laden has been accused by the United States of masterminding the bombings of two U.S. emsies in East Africa last year that killed more than 200 people. (AFP)

Commons Assails Arms Scandal

LONDON - The House of Commons delivered a scathing attack on Britain's Foreign Office on Tuesday for allowing British mercenaries to supply arms to Sierra Leone in hreach of a UN embargo.

Officials were singled out for their failure to properly brief government ministers on what became known as the "arms-to-Africa" scandal.

Foreign Office mandarins were also said to have selectively inter-preted the UN embargo, applying it solely to rebel insurgents and not to the ousted democratically elected government of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, This prompted suspicions that ministers covertly con-doned the illegal arms sales and supported a countercoup to restore the exiled government. (AFP) the exiled government.

Settlers Occupy Golan Heights Site

JERUSALEM - Settlers have moved into an abandoned Israeli Army post on the Golan Heights and plan to establish a new settlement there, a settler leader said Tuesday.

A former Defense Ministry official confirmed that the military site was turned over to civilian use but said no approval had yet been given for the creation of a new settlement.

A new Israeli settlement would very likely provoke Syria and make it more difficult to restart peace talks, suspended for the past three years. As a condition for a peace treaty, Syria wants Israel to return the strategic heights it captured in the 1967 Mideast war. (AP)

"Do you really cleanse the office as

The Clinton legal team relied on Mr.

Ruff to close its case. In grave and often

hiting tones, he insisted, as the White

House has for months, that the case for

impeachment was built on circumstan-

tial evidence and wishful extrapolations

hy Mr. Clinton's political enemies.

resolution?"

provided in the Constitution?" he asked.
"Or do you nse Air Wick of a censure





Prince Ali, left, and Crown Prince Hamzah, sons of King Hussein, at the Jordanian leader's funeral at Raghadan palace in Amman. At left, a man wiping his eyes after paying his respects to the king's sons.

Jordanians Solemn at Grave Site and Ponder Future

By Douglas Jehl New York Times Service

AMMAN, Jordan - Thousands of Jordanians from desert camps, urban shacks and sleek, modern villas, made their way to the royal palace on Tuesday to offer sympathy to King Abdullah II and prayers for his late father.

Queen Noor, the widow of King Hussein, and other female members of the royal family prayed separately at the king's grave.

and am strongly against them and have been saddened by them," Mr. Dorri-Najafabadi said in the letter. The text A day after a remarkable state funeral, There have been continuing calls for the pageants on Tuesday were suffused Syria and Jordan have been at odds, Mr. Dorri-Najafabadi's resignation with a personal touch that reflected, in its off and on, even before the new monarch since his ministry said Jan. 5 that some of own way, the emotional bond that since its agents had been arrested in connec- Jordan's creation in 1923 has helped to tion with a spate of killings of writers hold the land together as a kingdom.

and dissidents that becan in November.

"We believe Abdullah will be fine."

waited with others from throughout Jordan to meet with the new 37-year-old king in the throne chamber of Raghadan Palace. "This cuh is from the lion Palestinian guerrillas in flight, but it did The revelation that staff members at the king.

The events of the day were rooted in tributes to a court that, in one way or olence by the Muslim Brotherhood. another, remains Jordan's dominant

grief, as well as a hope that a new ttention to problems at home.

"The late king, God protect him, was loved by the world," said Khalid Magaab, 28, who was in the crowd. "We know that Abdullah will be loved as well, especially if these hard times can

be made lighter. For most Jordanians, the most immediate concern is unemployment, which economists say has soared to a rate far higher than the official figures of

15 percent. Most salaries have also remained stagnant, even as inflation bas cut deeply into paychecks of government workers.

words of many Jordanians, from cabinet Farouk Shara, sent an important signal, new Jordanian ruler might prove less of the statesmen who traveled to a to make much of an issue of the Israelsomber state funeral, but in the fact that Jordan peace pact. the occasion prompted a warm gesture from Syria, a neighbor generally regarded more often as threat than friend.

Not only did President Hafez Assad make a surprise trip to Jordan for the pay tribute to King Abdullah, who was just 8 years old when Mr. Assad took power in a military coup.

Syria and Jordan have been at odds,

In 1958, at a time of anti-Western turmoil in the Middle East, Syrian milary jets tried to force from the skies an said Sheikh Samir Aroumti, 57, who aircraft carrying King Hussein to

In 1970, Syria ordered troops into Jordan as King Hussein's forces sent

In 1980, Syria massed its forces along tradition — tribal shows of fealty to a the Jordanian border again, accusing monarch, along with calculated modern Jordan of supporting a campaign of vi-

And since 1994, when Jordan signed a cace treaty with Israel, relations have But they also clearly reflected true been all but frozen hy Syria, which has not yet made its peace with the Jewish generation of kingship might bring fresh state and has objected vehemently to the accords signed by other Arabs.

Mr. Assad had not visited Jordan since 1994, and he last met with King Hussein in 1996. But at the state funeral, after passing through the receiving line, he was among those who spoke at length with the new king in the plush gold couches of a royal salon.

From Damascus, Syrian officials have also sent conciliatory gestures, express-ing hope that the change of leadership might mark the beginning of a new chapter in the often-strained relationship between the two countries.

On Saturday, as King Hussein lay A sense of pride still echoed in the dying, the Syrian foreign minister,

ministers to Bedonin tribesmen. They saying in a lecture in the Syrian capital took satisfaction not only in the numbers that the government no longer intended Syria remains opposed to the accord,

> Israeli-Jordanian ties supersede those between Jordan and fellow Arabs. The Syrian overtures may reflect a

> Mr. Shara said, but does not want to see

funeral but he was also the first in line to softening of the fury felt by Damascus toward the Israeli-Jordanian peace ac-

day, it reflects a yet-unsubstantiated first time for a change in the Iraqi leadhope that a younger, more malleable ership.

bold than King Hussein, and more inclined to toe a pan-Arab line. Iraq, which to Jordan is another powerful, sometimes worrying neigh-

bor, has also expressed hope for a change in tone. The two countries have been hitterly

at odds in recent years, since Jordan, having tilted toward Iraq during the Gulf war of 1991, reversed course in 1995. At that time, the Jordanian govern-

But more likely, diplomats said TuesBut more likely, diplomats said TuesBaghdad defectors and called for the

CLINTON: Impeachment Trial Enters Final Stage in Senate

Continued from Page 1

Illinois, the new majority leader, said he hoped to open a new chapter in Republicans' often-strained relations with the president.

Asked in a CNN interview whether he was ready to work with Mr. Clinton once the trial is over, Mr. Hastert said: "Absolntely. He's the president of the United States, and the Congress, if we're going to get anything done, has to work with the president.

Senators continued struggling Tuesday over the language of a censure resolution aimed at condemning Mr. Clinton's efforts to conceal his intimate relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House volunteer worker.

A small group of conservative Republicans have declared censure unconstitutional and threatened parliamentary maneuvers to block it. A few liberal Democrats also oppose censure, deeming it unnecessary."
One conservative Republican, Sen-

ator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, put the chances of a vote this week on censure at no better than "50-50." Another Republican, Senator Larry

Craig of Idaho, referred to censure as "a rose that is beginning to wilt." He said chances were small that senators would consider it before their weeklong recess.

Failure to pass a censure motion this week might doom it, some proponents say. The minority leader, Senator Tom Daschle of South Dakota, insisted that Democrats would return to the issue later if necessary, but some senators said in-terest will fade quickly once the trial is over. The White House has supported censure as an alternative to impeachment and conviction, but likely would drop that support following an acquit-

The final arguments Monday appeared aimed more at historians than the 100 senators, who had heard the arguments and seem to have made up their

The House prosecutors, all Republicans, sought to justify their work,

which has been unpopular with most Americans, according to opinion polls. The prosecution team allowed all 13 of its members a chance to speak. The

lead prosecutor, Representative Henry

Hyde, closed with eloquent, if some-

times scathing remarks.

There were these other developments: Republican senators said they would pass to Mr. Starr unsubstantiated information suggesting that the White House had a taping system that might have recorded telephone conversations between Mr. Clinton and Miss Lewinsky. The White House has denied the existence of such a system, and some Democrats said they suspected that reports of its existence were intended to influence the final impeachment votes.

 Senate Republicans sought unsuccessfully to subpoena a British journalist and two others who have filed affidavits suggesting that Sidney Blumenthal, a White House aide, misled questioners during the Senate trial Democrats hlocked the motion.

Mexico Center-Left Makes Gains

2 State Elections Show Growing Popularity for Opposition

By Julia Preston New York Times Service

two states over the weekend, the nation's first good at organizing street protests but not at govmajor voting this year, demonstrate the continuing erning. growth of a left-of-center party that has capitalized on dissension in the governing party.

The challenger, the Party of the Democratic Revolution, won the top post in Baja California Sur, which includes Los Cabos and other beach resorts. Its candidate, Leonel Cota Montano, trounced his opponent from the governing Insti-tutional Revolutionary Party, 55 percent to 36

Mr. Cota built his coalition with the help of disgruntled members of the governing party who had hoped to be the party's candidate or to help choose the candidate. They bolted to the Party of the Democratic Revolution when their views were the results and seek a recount.

disregarded. The voting on Sunday was uneventful, with few irregularities reported. The PRI did not challenge

Since July 1997, the Party of the Democratic Stalwarts from the governing party had handed out Revolution has won three gubernatorial posts. In food and bags of cement in exchange for votes. Zacatecas and Tlaxcala last year, the party also achieved statehouse victories by winning disaf-

fected leaders from the governing party.
In addition, the political leader of the party,
Cuanhtemoc Cardenas, won the powerful office of mayor of Mexico City, with official stature equal to

A few years ago the party, which criticizes market-oriented policies and favors a strong role for the state in the economy and politics, labored MEXICO CITY - Elections for governor in under the image of a scrappy opposition that was

In the election on Sunday in the southwestern state of Guerrero, the two parties barried to a photo finish. According to official results, with 98 percent of the vote counted at midday Monday, the PRI candidate, Rene Juarez Cisperos, was leading, with 48 percent of the vote, ahead of Felix Salgado Macedonio of the Party of the Democratic Revolution, who had 46.

Although the governing party celebrated, the president of the Party of the Democratic Revolution, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, rejected the results as a "government-engineered fraud." He announced that his party would seek to overturn

Mr. Lopez Ohrador accused Interior Minister Francisco Labastida Ochoa, a member of the governing party, of rigging the election. Opposition poll watchers in many precincts contended that

"The PRI once again trafficked on the poverty of the voters by distributing presents in return for their votes," Mr. Lopez Obrador said.
Officials of the Party of the Democratic Rev-

olution said 17,000 votes had been annulled statewide because of alleged irregularities, chough to tip the count away from their party.

U.S. Rebuts Claim By Iraq Its Troops Downed Patrol Jet

WASHINGTON - The United States denied on Tuesday a report from Iraq that its forces had shot down a U.S. military plane.

"I have every evidence that that absolutely did not occur," said a Pentagon spokesman, Captain Mike Donbleday, when asked whether a U.S. patrol jet had been shot down in one of the Western-enforced no-flight

Captain Douhleday told a news briefing there had been a report of anti-aircraft fire in the northern noflight zone. "There have been no strikes taken by U.S. aircraft in the north or the south in the past four or five days," he said at a news hrief-

An Iraqi military statement said Western planes carried out 21 sorties inside Iraqi airspace in the north of the country. Primary data indicated that one of the "hostile planes" was shot down, the Iraqi statement said. A U.S. military official in Turkey

said there had been no incident in the northern zone on Tuesday. All the planes returned safely to the Incirlik Air Base in southern Turkey, the official said.

GERMANY: Jobless Data Add to Schroeder Woes

Continued from Page 1

January's figures are also 368,000 fewer than in January last year, when German unemployment hit a post World War II record of 12.8 percent. Reflecting the mounting pressure on the gov-ernment, Mr. Schroeder's party Tuesday decided

to rush its most argent and controversial economic legislation through the Bundesrat in March before the new Hesse government takes office in April and creates a blocking majority for the oppo-

The Hesse election threw the Social Democrats into turmoil over its tax reforms plans. But the party now hopes to avoid a blockade by railroading the tax plan through Parliament. The opposition wants to torpedo Mr. Schroeder's tax reform plan, which imposes heavy hurdens on industry and offers relatively meager tax reduc-

The militant IG Metall union continued a wave of warning strikes across Germany to keep pressure on a critical round of contract bargaining

Germany's largest union, which sets wages for 3.4 million industry- and antoworkers, is demanding a 6.5 percent wage increase and has rejected an offer from employers for a raise between 2.3 and

2.8 percent. Labor tensions are putting strains on another cornerstone of Mr. Schroeder's economic policy. Industry argues that the unions could torpedo Mr. Schroeder's "Alliance for Jobs" program, which was conceived as a roundtable of labor, hig business and government to fight unemployment.

Unemployment could rise with a generous of the German Industry Federation, accused IG issues.

Metall of breaching the spirit of the roundtable talks. If IG Metall, which said it would not settle below 4 percent, wins an aggressive wage increase over 3 percent, that will cause another increase in unemployment this year, Mr. Henkel said.

Unions remain adamant. Ursnla Engelen-Kefer, deputy chief of the German Federation of Labor, said it was time for a generation pay increase after years of modest union gains. "We have some catching up to do," Ms. Engelen-Kefer The European Central Bank also signaled its

concerns over the German unemployment rate. Speaking in Stuttgart only a few kilometers from where IG Metall held its talks, the ECB president, Wim Duisenberg, called on unions to accept "moderate" wage increases, saying hefty hikes could hurt the economy, already weighed down by the global economic slowdown.

Mr. Duisenberg reiterated the bank's concern over Europe's high johlessness, but he rebuffed essure on the bank to cut interest rates to counter joblessness. (Page 13.)

Euro-area interest rates are currently compatible with promoting economic growth and lower rates could endanger price stability and the bank's inflation-fighting reputation, the central banker said, Bloomberg reported.

"Monetary policy can do nothing more," he

It remains up to governments to take the lead in breaking up rigidities in labor markets, the central banker said. "The appropriate answer to this is structural reform of the economy, aimed at hreaking down inflexibilities," he said.

Mr. Schroeder is certain to confront tensions

raise, critics charge. Hans-Olaf Henkel, president within his own coalition over taxes and other

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ISLAMABAD The ruling Taleban said Tuesday that the Said Taleban Sano at the Landers was figto leave Afghanistan but that he would not be forced out, the Afgha Islamic Press reported.

... The decision by the lendership of the Taleban, the Islamic aroup the controls most of Alghanistan, fol controls there is U.S. request for he bin Laden to be expelled, a Taleba spokesman said. The spokesman spokesmen was all walling for evidence to support allegation that Mr. bin Laden was a lenong mastermind.

Mr. bin Laden has been accused by the United States of masterning ing the bombines of two U.S. on bassies in East Africa last year the killed more than 200 people. (Afr.)

Commons Assails Arms Scandal

LONDON - The House of Commons delivered a scatting a tack on Britain's Foreign Office on Tuesday for allowing British mecenaries to supply arms to Sien Leone in breach of a UN entergo Officials were singled out for

their failure to properly brief gor. erament ministers on what became known as the "arms-to-Afna" scandal. Foreign Office mandarus was

also said to have selectively into neeted the UN embargo, applying a solely to rebel insurgents and note the ousted democratically eleged government of President Ahmal Teian Rubbalt. This prompted as nicions that ministers coverily on doned the illegal arms sales and supported a countercoup to restor the exiled government.

Settlers Occupy Golan Heights Site

JERUSALEM Settlers has preved into an abandoned lead Army post on the Colar Fieight at plan to establish a new sellence

there, a settler leader said Tuesby A former Defense Ministry of ficial confirmed that the industries was jurned over to en that use is sand no approval had yet been gird for the creation of a new scaleman

A new Israeli settlement werd very likely provoke Syria and melif more dillicult to restat per talks, suspended for the past the cars. As a condition for a peac treaty. Syrta wants Istael to reas the strategic benglis a captarely the 1967 Mideast war

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The Clinton legal team teledor! Ruff to chose its case. In more mint billing tones, he masted, as the 8k House has for months, that the east enpeachment was built on curant tial evidence and wishloi extrapolate

the trial is by Mr. Clinton's political cooms There were these other development Republican country and would pass to Mr. Shar members information subjective, that the life Henry had a taying system that of have recorded templace concessed between Mr Clauron and Mis le

insky The White House has denied existence of such a sestent and it Denuscrats said they enspected the pure of its existence were michal influence the final may adment the Senate Republication sought use cessfully to subports. Relations

and two others who have the life suggesting that School Blunches White House aide, mainly heavy blocked the motival

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Jordan After Hussein

Openings Needed

The array of world figures who flew into Jordan for King Hussein's funeral anested to the personal esteem in which he was held and to the aspiration fur peace that he came to represent. But all this grew out of bis readiness to learn from experience. About what mattered most to him, the Hashemite dynasty and the integrity of Jordan, he learned a great deal as he went along.

In his exposure to Middle East high politics in the Arab-Israeli war of 1967. Hussein rejected the free pass he was offered by Israel and went to war. But in losing the West Bank and Arah Jerusalem, he drew the right conclusion — that there was no alternative to peace with Israel. By 1970 he was permitting Israeli warplanes to repel Syrian lanks that had penetrated Jardan to reinforce a regime-threatening Palestinian uprising. Wisely, he sat out the 1973 war. Throughout this period be engaged in the all but hidden diplomacy that went nowhere but still earned him his immensely useful image as a lonely and brave peace-seeker.

The Power of Peace

In death, King Hussein was able to do once more what he often did while living - draw together divided men. On Monday in Amman, men whom the most pressing diplomacy could scarcely gather passed one after another before the king's coffin, ac-knowledging, even in their differences, the power of the peacemaking man. The Syrian president, Hafez Assad. paused at the coffin, as did the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, the president of Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, and Bill Clinton and three former American presidents, Boris Yelisin, weakened by illness, paid a brief visit. Behind a military band and an honor guard, that extraordinary group walked together through the cold, hleached light of Amman. They did not succeed in giving the funeral pomp. They were captured instead by its silent, eloquent modesty, more powerful in its way than

What mattered in Amman was the

long-running Helmut Kohl regime in

Germany got off to a shaky start, but

one bright spot was its new policy on citizenship. Unfortunately, that policy

has got the new governing coalitioo

into trouble. The conservative oppo-

sition, campaigning largely against a

proposal to ease citizenship laws, won

an upset victory in a state election on

Sunday that deprives the governing

coalition of its majority in the federal

ity to get anything done on citizenship,

every relatively prosperous nation

within reach of a less prosperous one

- which means, in practice, every

prosperous nation. Workers in poor

countries will go to great lengths to

reach johs in wealthy ones, whether from Mexico to the United States.

China to Japan or Mozambique to

South Africa. There tends to be con-

siderable ambivalence in the wealthier

nations - a willingness to take ad-

vantage of low-cost labor, a concero

But Germany also presents a special

case. During its postwar economic

boom, it admined hundreds of thou-

sands of Turkish workers. But, with a

view of German-ness based on blood

rather than residency, it denied cit-

Unless Russia gets a radically new

cconomic regime, any further Western

money is likely to be squandered — at

best used to prop up a system that does not work, at worst to find its way into

the pockets of currupt politicians, of-

The West can continue to offer

money to help decommission nuclear

weapons and clean up the contamin-

ation they are causing. It can provide

food and medicine, and give support to

humanitarian aid, including cash for

ficials and husinessmen.

Just Say 'No' to Moscow

about diluting national identity.

Germany's dilemma is familiar to

as on other issues.

upper house. That could compromise

Who Is a German?

He became, outside the region, everyoce's favorite Arah moderate.

Egypt and subsequently the PLO beat him to the peace table with Israel. He got there himself in 1994. The resulting treaty did not produce the much touted peace dividend. For one reason, international sanctions against Saddam Hussein's Iraq denied Jordan its major economic partner to its east. Then the slowdown of peace talks that followed Yitzhak Rabin's assassination and Benjamin Netanyahu's ascension undercut oew linkages to its west. This is how, at his death, Jordan remained a scantily developed, resource-poor country in retreat from its own tentative

structural and democratic reforms. An opening to Iraq awaits larger developments. With luck, opening to Israel and a new Palestine could be just one Israeli election away. With more luck, the new king might undertake to turn his father's monarchy — which was absolutist, although by Arab standards usually moderately run - into a more anthentically constitutional and irreversibly democratic state.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

less, the spectacle of seeing such an unrivaled array of powerful faces. It was instructive, too, to watch those men in the receiving line where King Abdullah accepted their condolences. Some ap-

proached with a deep courtesy that was nonetheless informal, kissing King Abdullah oo both cheeks, grasping his forearm or his shoulder while they shook hands and talked. Others seemed to equate the ceremony of death with an almost bankerly sense of formality.

None of this, perhaps, was done in quite the way the women would have done it, who were required by Islamic law to mouro in private. The custom that the men enforced is an ancient nne. But as the procession moved through Amman, it was impossible oot to think of Queen Nonr, standing silently as the body of her busband was borne away. Archaic as the separation of the sexes in mourning seems to Westerners, it also captured the pure arcbaism of death. Someooe had been left behind, and for a moment we witnessed her

Christian Democrats in Hesse ran

hard against this idea, raising the

specter of swelling oumbers of Turks

joining their newly enfranchised rela-

tives. Some in Mr. Schroeder's party

paign, suggesting that it was not a

Every country has a right to debate

immigratioo and the questions of what

constitutes belooging, loyalty and cit-izenship. It may he better to have the

mainstream conservative opposition

raising the issue than to leave it to an

extremist fringe. This is so even though

racism forms an undeniable current in

the stream of opposition; dual citizen-

ship for Muslim, darker-skinned Turks

raises far more anxiety than, say, for

Christian Democrats are wrong. Set-

ting limits oo immigratioo is one thing;

allowing foreigners to move to your

country and then keeping them as

second-class citizens is another. That is

that the West was still ready to support

will to reform, is not one of them. In the

end, only Russians can make their

country work. They may as well realize

But a profligate dependency, with no

the things it believes in.

this sooner rather than later.

The real point, though, is that the

Austrians.

Other Comment

Herald Eribune

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gitimate issue. That misses the point.

acknowledgment of that fact.

Unchanged Security Policy in a Changing World

WASHINGTON — The striking thing about President Bill Clinton's new hudget is how bold and innovative it is on the domestic side and how conventional and safe it is oo the side of defense, national security and

diplomacy. In domestic policy, the administration addresses major questions of governance: the best uses of projected hudget surpluses, the focus on bolstering vital social programs (Social Security. Medicare) decades into the future, the start of an assault oo a national debt once thought impregnable, and the maintenance of the economic momentum that bas enabled these daunting policy challenges to come to the fore.

These are big-chip items and, regardless of the impeachment overhang, they promise at the least zestful political combat over issues undeniably worth being fought over in a democratic welfare state.

Oo the international side, by contrast, the budget speaks in familiar and repetitive tones about things as they pretty much are. Some budget increases of useful but modest dimensions are in the works for the Defense and State departments. Far from these increases being vehicles for major policy review or change, however, which is the way it ought to work, they are in the service of the military, poliocal and internaonnal circumstances of the day.

New money is heing put into pro-grams such as missile defense and embassy security. Still, these are matters that already have consensus support and scant air of political risk to them quite the cootrary.

In defense, there is always a place for continuity and incrementalism, which are up-market names for a policy otherwise more bound by the grip of the past than by a summons to change. Prisoner to old thinking and a le-

tains a vastly exaggerated level of strategic ouclear threat.

two large Desert Storm-type wars that the United States would expect to fight this time without allies.

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

Last October the Defense Science Board, a federal advisory committee that provides independent advice to the secretary of defense, imagined what security environments" might lonk

like 10 years down the road. It warned of prospective "asymmetries," or advantages, permitting hostile parties to penetrate communications networks, to acquire mass-casualty weapons, to shield key assets among ooncombatants or at cultural shrines, and to create links to transnational groups and criminal organizations.

The report also listed advantages already enjoyed by U.S. military forces: and-rich Europe to its own defense quality people of unmatched training; a force with global knowledge, presence China, or to shift defense hillions from

and reach; world-beating information systems, and "an unparalleled ability to apply joint force worldwide with precision fires, operational stealth and dy-

This is not to argue that America should go into a Buck Rogers mode against the world's bad guys forthwith. I am just trying to coovey a sense of the contingencies that have yet to be fully stitched into planning and policy but that start coming into view wheo you lift your sights a few inches over the near horizon depicted in the budget.

Nor does the new Clinton budget illuminate the strategic choices that would have to be made if the United States were seriously considering major foreign policy departures. Like a decision to bail out Russia to save it for democracy, or to leave a restoredresources, or to contain a menacing

duplicative military hardware to aid and development, or to adopt Latin America as an American project.

Again, I am not embracing these inioatives but trying to indicate what a foreign agenda as ambitious as Mr. Clinton's domestic agenda might include.

We know how this gap developed. On the domestic side, good fortune and good policy created a dream gift of surpluses that allowed a willing and ready President Clinton to refurbish his presidential prospects at a moment wbeo, because of his impeachment, he could not have needed it more.

On the oational security side, Mr. Clinton, starting at a personal disadvantage, shrewdly chose to preempt and propitiate the military and, much of the time, the political right, with the result that bipartisanship is working now about as well as it can. But is the policy keeping up with the world?

The Washington Post

It's High Time for a Lively American Debate About Military Spending

WASHINGTON — It is far past time for Americans to have a lively debate about defense spending.

Almost a decade after the Cold War ended, the country has not answered fundamental questions about what the threats are to its national interests around the world and how the military should be structured to respond.

The same old thing doesn't fit today's problems. Military threats to U.S. interests are declining while other challenges - economic instability, the dislocations caused by collapsing government structures - are on the npswing. Costly weapons systems generate

their own futures. Members of Congress in whose districts they are huilt see to it that they, and the jobs they produce, continue.

gislated requirement for parity with an immobile Russia, the Pentagoo main-billioo a year on defense. Now Bill Clinton, with all the excess of a presideot uncertain of his military creden-Out of anxieties not closely ex-amined in years, it continues to plan for lion over the next six years.

By Geneva Overholser

This act shows a complete lack of discipline. Rectifying the current shortfall in basic maintenance and personnel resources, both badly needed, requires much less. According to the Brookings military specialist Michael O'Hanlon. assuming savings that ought to be taking place, the government could hold the line at \$270 hillion and still address readiness needs.

Mr. Clinton's lavishness instead guarantees the continued avoidance of tough choices — and the continued purchase of \$2 hillion bombers, \$3 hillion submarines and \$5 hillion aircraft carriers as if the United States were still in an arms race with the Soviet Union.

A president desperate to please the A president desperate to please the military, a pork-barrel-loving Congress, a military driven by both real needs and a natural hankering for more—add to all this an expanding economy, and the sky is the limit.

In any other sector of government, someone would briog some scrutiny to bear. But even those who habitually decry throwing money at things go mute when the "things" are military. This is dangerous. Being given ample

resources to keep everything going as is tempers the military's incentive for self-examination. There is less need for redirection of resources, no pressure to innovate to meet new challenges.

In his new book "Fortress America: The American Military and the Con-sequences of Peace," William Greider concludes: "I think the American people are ready to hear something different. They are more open to dramatic changes in national defense than status-quo Washington imagines. They await a real debate.

There are always troubles in the world, but the nature of those troubles is changing rapidly, while the direction of the U.S. military is not. This presideot has ducked the challenge.

Washington Post Writers Group.

Hussein the Nation-Builder Leaves an Unfinished Task

WASHINGTON — The late King Hussein is being eulogized around the world for his role as a peacemaker and international statesman. But his real legacy, and what explains the outpouring of grief by his The government that replaced the izenship to these permaneot residents people, is the admirable way he and even to their children and grandran his owo backyard. The way children. The unteoable result is typhe played the roles of governor, ified by the recent case of a 14-year-old mayor and even local Bedouin boy deported to Turkey although he chief is what really set him had been born and raised in Germany. apart as an Arab leader. Mr. Schroeder rightly promised to of-fer citizenship to such childreo.

Indeed, as a geopolitician, he had his shortcomings. While he was always nimble enough to keep his country from being devoured, he suffered mightily from the game of natioos.

He let Nasser and the na-

street bamboozle him into the 1967 war. He talked himself out of the 1973 war, when he might have actually recaptured part of his lost kingdom from Israel Theo he weot over the waterfalls in a rowboat with Saddam Hussein, as the Jordanian street, particularly the Palestinians, pushed him toward an alliance with Iraq in reaction to Israel's crushing of the Palestinian intifada in the West Bank,

By Thomas L. Friedman

faced from the Iraq fiasco, be calm equilibrium at bome by swam over to Israel's sbores in using his owo natural resources the late 1990s.

In fairness, his geopolitical do-si-do was partly in the nature of things. His tiny country, sitting at the crossroads of caravan routes and at the hinge of big-power rivalries, was always going to be the plaything of larger forces.

But wheo it came to the game of natioo-building, Hussein deserves to be remembered as an Arab superpower.

Jordanians do not care two cents about the peace that Hustionalist euphoria of the Arab sein made with the Jews on the western side of the Jordan. What they revere him for is the peace he maintained for Jordanians on the eastern side of that river. It may seem like an unfairly simple epitaph for such a histooc figure, but for my money Hussein's gravestone should read: "He kept Jordan a nice place to live in a bad neighborhood."

After stomping out a Palestinian guerrilla attempt to Jordan from Syria, from Iraq or take over Jordan in 1970, he

When the king finally sur- established a stable, almost with his people. He bought stahillty with tolerance and integrity, when dinars and dollars just were not available.

Hussein was a bit like a single mother in the slums of Hell's Kitchen who worked two jobs hut oevertheless raised all eight of her kids to finish school and stay out of jail.

in a neighborhood of brutal thugs, he operated with a basic decency. In a oeighborhood of teeming, unplanned cities, he maintained clean streets, with stoplights that worked, buses that ran and gardens that grew green. In a oeighborhood of overlapping intelligence services and censored newspapers, he let his people breathe. In a oeighborhood of anti-democratic regimes, he experimented

with real parliamentary politics. Sure, Jordan is still poor and underdeveloped in many ways.

flushing out of your body as you drove from the airport into but compared with many of its' neighbors it was an oasis of stability, with deep wells of re-

straint, in a desert of nastiness. Yes, other Arab countries around Jordan are stable, too, but their stability was bought wholesale, not retail. In places such as Syria or Iraq, stability was bought by taking away people's freedoms, by taking away their free speech, by taking away their right to vote, by taking away political pluralism

Hussein did it the other way.

been crying real tears. The same with people outside the Mideast. It is odd to think how popular Hussein had become in his later years. After all, his past was not un-

checkered. I believe it is because be ignited the same feeling in us that the late Prime Minister

experienced that sense of ex- hope that is kindled when we haling, that feeling of tension flushing out of your body as you drove from the airport into the relaxed capital of Arman.

Jordan wasn't Switzerland, handshake to a lifelong foe and say: "Eoougb, I was wrong. This war is stupid." It keeps alive the idea that anything is possible in politics, even in Middle East politics.

Hussein's tenure also reminds us of a fundamental rule of international relations. The less oil a country has, the more likely that its leader will try to survive not by crushing his people with a massive state bureaucracy and army but by accommodating them. The king had too little oil and too many Palestinians (some 70 percent And that is wby his people have of his population) to rule with

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anything like an iron fist. But the less oil you have, and the more you have to rely on building a real bond with your people, the more vulnerable you are to the shifting moods of the street. That is why until his last day Hussein alternated between maintaining his legitimacy by sweeping the streets and maintaining his legitimacy by, occasionally, being swept

up hy them. His decision to sack his brother, Crown Prince Hassan, and replace him with his son Abdullah as heir was driven in part hy a sense that Prince Abdullah. with his Palestinian wife and his own roots in the Bedouin-dominated army, would be much more popular on the street, and much more capable of holding the Jordanian consensus than the more experienced, but elitist,

Prince Hassan. Prince Abdullah's appointment was Hussein's last bet that the best way to preserve a dynasty is by relying on legitimacy, not fear. If the new king can manage to sweep the streets half as well as his father, and not be swept up by them quite so often, he might just make his father's bet a good one.

The New York Times.

Back to the Mideast Future in the Oil Game

WASHINGTON — In the Middle East, this is one of those moments when you can see the tectonic plates of politics and economics shifting at the same time, bringing new opportunities and instabilities to what is still the world's most

groups struggling to strengtheo the press, the protection of human rights and other aspects of the building of volatile region. One symbol of change is the passing of Jordan's King Hussein. A king who addressed even the rattiest visiting journalist as "Sir." he embodied democracy. It should pay for coborts of ynung Russians in come to Western countries to learn about decency in husiness. All of this would be evidence the region's essectial political

> balancing of interests. Behind Hussein's often infuriating balancing act lay the great straddlers of all time, the Saudi royal family, and their fabulous oil wealth. The Saudis inaugurated the modem era in the Middle East in the early 1970s when they joined Iran, Libya and the other oil states in moving to nationalize their oil

skill — survival through careful

resources and jack up prices. That era of nationalized oil power is now over. The Saudis, with little fanfare, signaled its end a few months ago when Crown Prince Abdullah ihn Adulaziz invited seven American oil companies to make proposals for investing in new oil and gas projects in the kingdom.

The Saudis thus joined the other firebrands of the old OPEC, Iraq, Libya and Iran, in dangling before U.S. oil companies the possibility of buying what amount to equity stakes in oil and gas fields.

Deals like this have not been around since the 1970s, and they have the oil industry ex-cited, even in this period of low oil prices. That is because most of the Arah oil is cheap and easy to produce, especially compared with high-cost, high-risk oil from the Caspian Sea. What prompted the Saudis to

By David Ignatius consider this U-turn was their how cheap Saudi oil is to pro-worry, which has grown steadily duce. Nathaniel Kern, president through the years of the Clinton administration, that their relationship with the United States was fraying. They decided last summer to try to souch it back together with the same thread that had bound the two countries in the first place, namely, col-

laboration on oil projects. Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the Saudi ambassador, invited the oil CEOs to his home overlooking the Potomac on Sept. 26. The letter of invitation promised that Prince Abdullah would "share his thoughts and ohservations concerning future developments in the Saudi oil industry,'' accurding to nne

man who attended. The CEOs and the crown prince exchanged ideas, and everyone went away happy. The oil companies are now sending the Saudis detailed proposals for a range of projects including new gas ventures and at least ooe oil acheme. The Saudi royal family is said to be split internally over how far to go with this opening, but that is in char-

acter for the great straddlers. Vahan Zanoyan, president and CEO of The Petroleum Finance Co., an energy consulting firm, thinks that the Saudis may hope to push production up to 10 million barrels a day from the current 8 million over a period of several years, along with an additional 2 million barrels or more of reserve capacity. That strategy could drive oil prices well below \$10 a barrel, which would hurt the Saudis but could ruin their high-cost competitors from the Caspian and elsewhere, Mr.

of Foreign Reports, an oil consulting firm, notes that the capital cost of producing a daily barrel of heavy Venezuelan crude (an investment that the oil

companies were jumping at until recently) is \$28,000. By comparison, an investment of just \$5.000 per barrel a day is needed to produce the most expensive Saudi oil, from the remote Shaybah field, and most Saudi oil is far cheaper. The Saudis are joining other former oil hawks who moved earlier to invite Western capital. The Iranians last summer

offered 40 "buy-back" projects, with investors promised long-term access to crude. The Kuwaitis have been talking to some big U.S. oil companies about taking over management of the fields near the Iraq border, under "service contracts" that

might run 20 years or more.
The higgest remaining prize is Iraq. The Iraqis are sitting on nearly as much oil as the Saudis, and some analysts say that once sanctions are ended and the Iraqi fields are rebuilt, they could produce from 6 to 8 million barrels per day, rivaling the Saudis. It is probably no accident that Iraq's three best friends on the UN Security Council, France, Russia and China, are all looking at very favorable "equity" oil deals.

The good news is that the world is likely to remain awash in cheap oil for many years. The bad news, for crisis watchers, is that the most attractive and profitable oil remains in the turbulent Middle East.

All that talk you were hearing in the past few years about bow Here is an illustration of just the Caspian is the new cockpit

of crisis, the new Great Game, well, that was largely bype. The oil game still involves the same old countries. But the political cast of characters is beginning

to change.
"Back to the Fnture" might be a good name for the geopoliocal drama to come. Now, as 30 years ago, oil is cheap, the producing countries are politically fragile but eager for Western help, and multinational oil companies salivate at the prospect of juicy deals.

Washington seems to have

most of the high cards. But, as we know from experience, there are a lot of jokers in this deck. The Washington Post.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1899: Algiers Riot

PARIS — There was a serious riot in Algiers. A great crowd was making its way to the Vé-lodrome, where a lecture on Algeria was to be given, but the way was stopped by tirailleurs and mounted gendarmerie. Then the people learned that the Governor-General had forbidden the lecture. The ringleaders decided

It is planned by the British Broadcasting Company to have the group of American Indians

the United States in connection with "The Covered Wagon," to broadcast an all-Indian program. Chief-Goes-in-the-Lodge, aged 85, who was one of the warriors in Custer's massacre, will fill the ears of English youth with blood curdling yells.

1949: Eritrea's Fate

terests of three powers - Great Britain, Italy and Ethiopia are involved in the problem of Eritrea, former Italian African colony. Count Sforza expressed the hope that Eritrea would not be annexed to Ethiopia. "The attempt to reconcile these interests at the expense of Eritrea by territorial partition that recalls the old 'scramble for Africa.' 'Count Sforza said. 'is repugnant.' Count Sforza said Erites and Erites a could achieve independent of the country of t dependence after a period of who came bere by permission of trusteeship administration.

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuitty-sur-Seine, France. Estern for Asia: Michael Richardson, S. Camerhare Rd., Sangapore 11980). Tel. (65) 472-7768, Fax. (65) 274-2534
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Majoro: ROME - Foreign Minister that the demonstration should Carlo Sforza said that the iomarch upon Algiers. Mr. Roche , 25 P. Apr. 20 . 20 1. 24 1. protested against the stopping of dia is the lecture, and proposed to organize a private meeting. Many arrests were made, including a number of women and girls. 1924: Indian Yells LONDON - Juvenile broadcasting fans here are promised a 100 percent. American novelty. AGAMA ORCHIDS

Zanoyan says.

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uncomfortable with absolut-ism. Sir Isaiah Berlin, the great British historian-philosopher, showed us that certainty has been the hallmark of totalitar-

BOSTON — Representative Lindsey Graham's Financial Times put it, they voice trembled as he ended the were "blinded by their moral Republican prosecutors' pre-sentation of evidence, "For righteonsness."

Absolute Certainty

Leads to Blindness

By Anthony Lewis

An uninformed person who God's sake," he told the Senwandered into the Senate galate, "figure out what kind of kery and heard the managers person we have here in the excoriating President Bill Clinton might have thought Why the trembling emo-tion? Frustration, I think. Mr. Graham and the other Republican managers are true believers. They believe that an evil here: that the president tried to president is about to be ac-

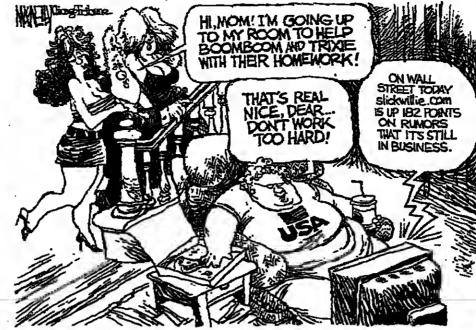
conceal illicit sex.

The Republicans made the same mistake that they and uitted of the impeachment charges, and they cannot un-Kenneth Starr, the independent derstand why.

If they could only see it, one counsel, did in videotaping Mr. Clinton's grand jury testimony reason is their very certainty: and playing it to America. their absolute conviction that They thought Americans would be outraged at the pres-ident's misbehavior. Instead Most Americans do . not want to be governed by men they were offended at the who know they are always prurient effort to make a legal

mountain out of his folly. People could imagine themselves in the hands of relentless

ition, not much noticed, that done himself and her a great showed how out of touch the favor. But it was Mr. Starr and Republican managers were the House Republicans who with reality. Representative Ed made her life into a spectacle. Bryant asked her wby she wanted to avoid testifying in sneered that the Democrats had



Her answer, devastating in its

"First of all, I thought it was nobody's business. Second of all, I didn't want anything to do with Paula Jooes or her case." The managers dripped with sympathy for Ms. Lewinsky. The president "threw her life on the ash heap," Represen-tative James Rogan said. Yes, if Mr. Clinton had had the

Henry Hyde repeatedly

the five career prosecutors. Democratic and Republican. who said they would never have prosecuted such a case.

That goes to the heart of the Republican failure here. The extremists on the House Judiciary Committee insisted that the president had committed crimes, and that removal from sense to turn away when she office must follow. They would Monica Lewinsky's depos- flirted with him, he would have not even allow the House to consider the penalty that would have fit the character of the offense, a censure motion.

The charges of perjury and obstruction of justice are supported by oothing but surmise and conjecture. As the White did not understand how their the Paula Jones case about her called "professors" to testify, and conjecture. As the White zealoury troubled their andi-relationship with the president. a piece of anti-intellectual dem-

agoguery worthy of George said neither charge would sur-Wallace. He never mentioned vive a motion to dismiss in any court. Bot the managers kept saying that they were just doing their constitutional duty -as if the constitution required them to press a partisan case for impeachment on flimsy grounds.

If the Republican Party wants to win national elections, it is going to have to do something about the party elements, in and out of Congress, that took the country into this endless impeachment process.

As the Duke of Wellington said when he looked at some of his own forces, "I don't know what effect these men will have on the enemy, but by God they terrify me.

The New York Times.

The Senate Should Leave the Writing of History to Historians

WASHINGTON — Platoons of sen-ators, strapped in their chairs all day Saturday and forced to watch portions of the videotaped interviews with three impeachment trial witnesses tapes most of them had already seen in their entirety — burst forth on the Sun-day morning television shows and ven-

White House."

they are right.

right. Most Americans believe

that life has to have room in it

for uncertainty, for change, for

Americans are wise to be

The Republican managers

ted their bottled-up thoughts. It was not an edifying spectacle. Sen-ator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, the chamber's unofficial historian, told ABC's Cokie Roberts that he had concluded that President Bill Clinton had committed "high crimes and misdemeanors." And then this solon, who declared that "the constitution is just like the Bible" in its immutability, said he might

matic of the answers senators gave when various moderators asked: What will you do if the Senate, as widely forecast, decides later this week to acquit Mr. all over the state. Clinton of the perjury and obstruction of justice charges passed by the House?

The right answer, which occurred to only a few of them, is: Nothing. House and Senate have discharged their

responsibilities.

By David S. Broder

method of dealing with a lawless pres-

stituents will have plenty of time to reflect on what has occurred. The constitution provides only one

ident impeachment and conviction, which means automatic removal. A president may resign, but Mr. Clinton long ago rejected that honorable course of action. Still, a good many senators said they were uncomfortable letting acquittal be the final word from them. "I don't want the vote to acquit viewed as a vote to exonerate," said Senator Susan Collins of Maine, a Republican. These senators said they would be more comlet Mr. Clinton off because he had less fortable if acquittal were quickly fol-than two years to serve, the economy was lowed by what they called "a strong, office. Bot there is no sanction for such a

Mr. Byrd's confusion was sympto-myself and my people, 'What he did was switched. Mr. Gramm pointed out, as I satic of the answers senators gave when wrong.' 'To which the proper reply is: have previously, that Richard Nixon re-Say it, senator. No one is stopping you. Say it in any way you like, and send word But stand up and do it yourself. Do not

seek comfort in numbers. Do not attach to the constitutional process of impeachment an improvised sure enters the armory of congressional Once the votes have been cast, the makeshift of uncertain impact and du-punishments, the separation of powers is constitutional process is over. The bious precedent, simply to solve a short- eviscerated and the stage is set for Conterm public relations problem.

And the lawmakers and their conformia Democrat who has been trying to majority of lawmakers wishes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

draft a bipartisan censure resolution, bristled when Senator Phil Gramm, the Texas Republican who is perhaps the most outspoken opponent of censure, said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that "censure is about giving political cov-er." Senator Joseph Lieberman, a Coner.' necticut Democrat and one of Ms. Feinstein's collaborators, said: 'It is not about politics. It's about values."

Assume that to be true. But consider: Does a resolution of censure add anything to the weight of 100 senators voicing their individual dennociations of the president's behavior? If not, it is redundant, an

exercise without meaning.

If it does add something, it is presumably a form of punishment, less strong and most people wanted him to stay. Did he find those exceptions some where in the impeachment clause — or just in the wanderings of his own mind?

In the stay of what they cancer a strong, office. Bot mere is no sanction for such a punishment in the constitution, and the precedents are terrible. Andrew Jackson where in the impeachment clause — or just in the wanderings of his own mind? punishment in the constitution, and the commended censure of President Harry Truman for firing General Douglas MacArthur, which made Mr. Troman wildly unpopular at the time but is now viewed

as an act of statesmanship. Mr. Gramm also argued that once cengress to use censure to clob the president Senator Dianne Feinstein, the Cali- or even the Supreme Court whenever a

The inherent problems in the censure option are reflected in the confusioo among its proponents. Ms. Feinstein and Olympia Snowe of Maine, a Republican, insist there be no negotiations with the White House, Senator Christopher Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, wants the censure to be signed by the president, obviously requiring negotiations. He also wants the House brought aboard, which means another protracted set of discussions. And for what? "For the history books," say Ms. Feinstein and others.

Far better to leave Mr. Clintoo - and Congress — to the judgment of history. These folks have made enough of a hash

of things already.

The Washington Post.

A Compassionate Conservative **Embraces the Art of Emoting**

By George F. Will

prosperity with a moral and spiritual center." Mr. Bush answered by citing the need to "rally what I call the armies of compassion all across the state of Texas to interface with our young, to help and to mentor," and so on. But he finally said,

'It's really all based around a story. The story is that Mr. Bush visited a juvenile justice facility, where a boy asked him, "What do you think of me?"

MEANWHILE

Mr. Bush says, "It was a question that was just so profound and so right." It means, Mr. Bush says, "Is there a role for me in society?"

Maybe that is what the boy meant.
Certainly Mr. Bush's answer means he is attemed to the times. He is fluent in the emotive language of today's therapeutic ethos. This fluency of a Republican mised in Midland, Texas, testifies to the ubiquity of the culture of emotional vulnerability.

Early in his presidency, Bill Clinton took his cabinet to Camp David for a sensitivity session, complete with "fa-cilitators" to facilitate the sharing of feelines by participants who were in recovery from reticence. A participant told The Washington Post, "Don't try to make this sound weird." Heaven forfend.

One of Newt Gingrich's first acts when elected speaker was to hire a "corporate psychotherapist" to help Republicans communicate their feelings to the public. Such recourse to the 'caring professions' is now cormal. The sensitivity industry is booming in the United States, there being more therapists than fortable about' that Count the ways firefighters, librarians or mail carriers, government insinuates itself into intimand twice as many as there are dentists or pharmacists, Government cannot be hermetically sealed against the culture.

Mr. Bush's rhetoric, like Mr. Clin-too's, which it mimics, is evidence of more than just conservative panic about the public's receptivity to Mr. Clinton's belief that pathos is the primary business of politics.

Rather, Mr. Bush's manner of speak-is never done. That work, and the gov-ing is evidence that Mr. Clintoo's polit-emment that undertakes it, is unlimited. ical style is oot idiosyncratic but symptomatic. The conflation of culture and government is far advanced.

James Nolan Jr., professor of sociology at Williams College, understands lation between compassionate government and the therapeutic culture. In his book "The Therapeutic State: Justifying Government at Century's End," he ar-

ASHINGTON — In a television of legitimacy; that the therapeutic mis-interview, Governor George Bush sion both fuels and legitimizes governof Texas was asked to explain his goal of ment's expansions into new spheres of society's and individuals' lives.

The therapeutic ethos increasingly in fuses civil case law that elevates the status of emotions by awarding damages for distress unrelated to physical injury.

It treats crimes as pathologies, drug cases especially, but also sometimes regarding burglary, prostitution, domestic violence, writing bad checks and other offenses. Defendants are "clients."

The aim is "healing" or "recovery." Recidivism is not proof of failure in "treatment" because relapse is part of recovery from the "sickness" of crime. Proof of recovery is the "client" pleasing his government therapist by assenting to the pathological interpretation of his behavior and thus to the ideology of victimization: Crime is caused by an abusive

or otherwise pathological childhood.

The therapeutic orientation of education postulates that a prerequisite for learning is a government-approved and encouraged frame of mind - "self-Government occasionally makes mandatory a pharmacological "remedy," Ritalio, for the suddenly epidemic problem of Attention Deficit Dis-order. Mr. Nolan says therapeutic welfare policy also involves government concern not only with behavior but with the internal workings of individuals --intentions, motives, family relation-

Clintonesque, meaning self-referential, rhetoric is part of the substance of

acy with citizens. Mr. Bush, avatar of "compassionate

conservatism, began his interview by endorsing 'limited government.'

However, compassion means the prevection or amelioration of pain, includ-ing the emotional pain of disappointment or hurt feelings.

A compassionate government's work

The truthful answer to the question the boy put to Mr. Bush would be: "Young man, I don't know you, and it is not the business of government to get to know ology at Williams College, understands everyone personally. Society would be the implications of the dialectical reardized, hy a government that tried to."

Bot Mr. Bush, like all thoroughly

modern masters of the politics of pathos, understands that the therapeutic ethic gues that government tends to expand; sternly forbids such stermness. that expansion tends to produce a crisis

Washington Post Writers Grow

Washington Post Writers Group



affected. Can anyone be that naive? I am embarrassed to say that I have juridical harassment and intimidation. high crimes and misdemeanors levied by his Republican accusers. The inexcusable much longer, I am oot sure.

Whichever way the trial of the president ends, history will record Bill Clinton's misbehavior and his attempts to circumvent the questionable charges of personal conduct of the president might be contained in one half or, at most, a page in a history book. Many pages will be needed, however, to chronicle Kenneth Starr's inquisition and the railroading of

Mr. Clinton by the House Republicans.

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Several Republican lawmakers have

Censure and Impeachment

indicated that in two years the public will in the next presidential election will not be

R. MAXWELL FISH Sevran, France.

Committed as they are to playing out the moral melodrama of 'right' and "wrong," it would appear that a fundamental stance shared by many Amer-

icans has escaped the notice of Repubhave forgotten their errors and mistakes in lican and Democratic politicians and the judgment and that Republican prospects American media: namely, that anyone would dissemble about his or her private life to a prosecutor bent on a campaign of Moreover, I suspect that President

Bill Clinton's alleged perjury about his love affair taps into a deep well of comprehension oo the part of voters. There should be no validation of the special prosecutor's abuses of his office and thus no censure of Mr. Clinton. RODDEY REID.

Chiba-ken, Japan.

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Record Nabob Sets the Tempo

Dodging Danger in Music Business

By Mike Zwerin

ARIS - As the co-chief executive and co-chairman of Atlantic Records, Ahmet Ertegun has to bear his share of the blame for the condition of the major labels. which were recently described as being gripped by "hypercautioo, creative torpor and industrial paralysis."
He does oot agree with any of it. First

of all, in all fairness, he also deserves to bear his share of pride in the key role he played in the worthy careers of people from Ornette Coleman to Aretha Franklin (by way of Crosby, Stills and Nash and the Modern Jazz Quartet).

And second, he contradicts the almost universally accentuated negative. "We have good men running the record business," he said, and proceeded to cite a half-dozen or so.

The way he put it, they were pretty much all knowledgeable and reasonable men who love music. Listening to his take on the current state of affairs, it would seem that he was describing a totally different industry, or another time, or both. "Ynu can't bat a thou-sand," he reasoned. "It's a husiness fraught with danger."

Ertegun, 74, is a veteran record man with an impressive track record and a deep musical culture. Along with that of his late brother and partner Nesuhi, his name could almost be up there as part of the name of the label itself. They are

Lately, he has been promoting "Blues Blues Blues," an album he produced by the Jimmy Rngers All-Stars, featuring Taj Mahal, Jeff Healey, Kim Wilson, Carey Bell, Johnnie Johnson and Lowell Fulson. "This album is chock full of magic moments," he said. 'And although everybody says, 'Wow, all those names!' and that's good because it leads people to listeo to it, what's really good about the alhum is not the famous people on it hut that they play the hives so well."

If that is true, then the fact that Mick Jagger, Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, Robert Plant, Keith Richards and Stephen Stills — all impressively deliberately primitive — are also featured oo it is oot essential information. He hangs oot with these people, they are great friends of

'These people did oot agree to be on the record because they are great frieods of mine," Eneguo continoed. "They did it because they are all real fine blues people and they loved Jimmy Rogers. We never got a turndown. Whomever we asked was very happy to play with Jimmy Rogers."

Rogers, who died at 74 before the album was completed last year, was rhythm guitarist with the Muddy Waters Chicago blues band, which changed the sound of the hlues wheo it electrified.

Also a songwriter and a singer, Rogers wrote some of the songs and sings oo the album. The Muddy Waters band was a prime influence oo the first generation of rock stars who pay homage to him by performing on this tribute.

"When yon go to guys' Ertegun homes," said of the all-stars, you understand that the old-time hlues hy these original hlack players is what they choose to listen to." We have heard this song before - English gui-

the original black hluesmeo (while borrowing their mu-

Ertegun, however, is very good at putting everybody's best foot forward; his own as well as the musicians' and the industry's, He admitted that many of the early hluesmen were treated unfairly by the record companies, with their "low royalty rates and creative bookkeeping." But he also outlined how Atlando redressed the balance by forgiving debit balances and contributing millions to the Rhythm and Blues Foundatioo:

"Atlantic never did any of that shabby stuff, hut I'm the last person from that era left, so I gness I bear the brunt of everybody else's sins.

The "sins" have since muloplied. Universal and PolyGram have just merged into the world's higgest record

T'S A WALL STREET world now," Norman Lehrecht wrote in The Daily Telegraph in London. "Some 200 rock bands have been dropped by their labels, and 3,000 staff dismissed. Seagram, the liquor empire, which owns the restructured Universal Music Group, needs to save \$200 million this year to pay for the purchase." Lehrecht talked about a "trail of bodies" and an "already somber sector

The merged enoty will command 24 percept of world record sales. Many industry people, not to mention mu-sicians, are worried about the "suits," accountants and lawyers, making creative decisions, and about each quarter's profits being the principal measure of ccess. Atlantic is part of the Time Warner group, which merged some years ago, and also includes such labels as Elektra, East West and Rhino.

plunged into deep gloom.

"We think we've been successful in maintaining the character of each label



tar heroes hanning Ahmet Ertegun puts musicians' best feet forward.

with diminishing staff," Ertegun said.
"At Atlantic, we're running a very good company. And it gets better every year. We continue to develop new artists. The so-called quote 'suits' unquote do not tell us to sign up the 'Squirrelheads' over here instead of the 'Jerkos' over there. They know we know what we're doing and they rely on us to bring in the

"It's terrible when a lot of people get fired. But you need to see the perspective. Over the years, my partners changed, new people became president and co-chairman and so forth. Everybody new whn came in every year or six months or so brought in their own team and signed new acts. Nobody was fired. There's a limit.

"After all the turmoil of our merger," Ertegun went on, "we sat back, looked at what we had, listened to what they did, and we decided to let some 50 to 60 artists go. We just didn't have room to promote all of them correctly. Now we have many fewer artists hut we stay with them much longer, And yon know, sometimes an artist woo't sell very much, but it's still nice to have the presoge of an alhum that is listed hy critics as one of the 10 best of the

Whereas other senior executives would be content to settle for either sales or - oot too often - prestige alone, he'll go for both.

by now sold well over a million copies most renowned composers of the 18th since it was recorded as an LP. And, century hot whose fame barely ootlasted "'oddly eoough," the Jimmy Rogers album is turning out to be more than bis lifetime. On Sunday the Berlin Staatsoper observed the tricentennial of the mere prestige: "It has shown strong initial strength," Ertegun said. "We're getting a lot of air play. We're getting a portunity to the portunity of the solid sales. I think we are getting solid sales. I think we are going to do very well with it."

A Perplexing 'Macbeth'

By David Stevens International Herald Tribune

ARIS - "Macbeth" was Verdi's first creative encounter with Shakespeare and his re-sponse to the challenge resulted in his great leap forward as a musical dramatist, equal to the poet's psychological probing of the murderous royal

It was Paris, 18 years after the Florence premiere, that asked for music for a ballet - then ohligatory in French opera - for an 1865 prodoction at the Theatre Lyrique. Verdi supplied that but also seized the chance to make revisions, giving Lady Macbeth a new Act 2 aria ("La loce langue") and rewriting much of the final act in the light of his

greater experience.

It is this version (but without the hallet) that is most familiar oo the world's stages, and it is the version used in the new production — musically im-pressive but with a quirky staging —just mounted at the Opera Bastille. The French baritooe Jean-Philippe

Lafont, in potent vocal form, portrayed a formidable Macbeth, a bluff warrior derailed by his own ambition and his inability to cope with his fiendish spouse, but in the end resolute in facing the disastrous consequences of his brutal climh to power.
As Lady Macbeth, Maria Guleghina

- the Kirov soprano whose international career began taking off several years ago — cut a figure of demonic intensity. Her vocalism was uneven bot powerfully delivered, and the sleepwalking scene, although fussy in action, was vocally impressive, with its pianissimo ending rising to the famously eerie high D-flat.

The production, staged by Phyllida Lloyd and with sets and costumes by Anthony Ward, is perplexing. It is long on peripheral anecdote and short on dramatic insight, while offering few clues about historical time or place.

The basic set is an open space with walls that suggest the wood paneling of a corporate boardroom. These walls slide



surmounted them, and he was not alone. ceed on its own terms. It was an in-

apart frequently, offering a brightly lit view upstage in which a large gilded cage is the principal element. A oumber of already announced events are given visual, but hardly necessary, reinforcement — King Duncan snoozing in bed, a few minutes later, Duncan's hloody corpse, and still later Lady Macbeth's lifeless body dangling from a gibbet, just in case one did not believe the death notice. Similarly, the offstage slaughter of Macduff's family is mimed onstage. The piling up of visual detail eventually distracted from the main events.

The richness of some of the costumes suggests some exotic realm overflowing with precious metals rather than a rough 1 1th-century Scotland, not to mention a pipe with running water, handy for folks with bloody hands to wash.

The witches cut striking figures with

their dark robes and red headgear, but they kept making unsolicited appearances in scenes they were not booked for. It hardly seemed necessary for Macbeth to seek them out on the heath when they make house calls.

From the podium, Gary Bertini shaped a solid musical performance, the major secondary roles were handsomely cast with Franco Farina (Macduff) Marco Berti (Malcolm) and Carlo Colombara (Banquo), while the Opera's chorus was in top form in choruses of the witches and the exiles.

This "Macbeth" is a co-production with London's Royal Opera, which was to have done it in 1997 (in 1847 version) as part of its continuing Verdi festival. Production difficulões converted that into a concert performance, giving Paris the first shot at the staging.

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George W. Loomis is a music writer

Minimalist View of a Gay Scene

By Sheridan Morley International Herald Tribune

ONDON - Gay plays in Britain have had a curious history of what could be called an "open closet." Long before the abolition of state censorship in the 1960s, dramas like "The Greeo Bay Tree" (1933) and Noel Coward's "Design for Living" the fallowing year had unmistakably homosexual leading characters, while "Tea And Sympathy" played Paris and London in the 1950s, long before venturing to Broadway and then the screen.

Yet we have never had any real equivalent of the polemical writing of a Larry Kramer, or the poetic yearning of a Terrence McNally for a happy homosexual community devaid of AIDS or mainstream prejudice. Even in Kcvin Elyot's

My Night With Reg. arguably the best gay play of the last decade in this country, AIDS is something that happens offstage between acts. All of which makes

"Certain Young Men," the play that about as quietly revolutionary as it can is trapped somewhere between a play Peter Gill has written and directed for the Almeida, kind of fascinating in its own very chilly and minimalist way. Gill has always specialized in crosssections of a community, (like his recent "Cardiff East" at the National, a latter-day dramatic version of

"Under Milk Wood" with the techniques of drama-docu- THEATER mentary replacing the Dylan mentary replacing the Dylan Thomas poetry), and here again we have an ad hoc grouping of characters all in grouping of characters all in search of a plot which some-

how Gill never quite manages to find. His eight characters are neatly divided into four couples; all are gay, and all have to some extent destroyed their own happiness by an inability to come to terms with their sexuality. Some are dangerously close to stereotypes: the bookish intellectual falling for a hit of rough, or the late-developing gay still half in love with his former wife. But Gill's message is, when it finally flashes through 10 us.



Peter Sullivan in "Certain Young Men." at the Almeida.

get. "Certain Ynung Men" says that there is oo such thing as community, that people who adore Calvin Klein or Judy Garland or Maria Callas might be just that, not oecessarily trying to crack

Gays, in a crude synopsis of Gill's text, are just like everyone else, except that they happen to be gay. They get to-gether, separate, bicker, reconcile and in the end try to work out whether it is time to

move on to other partners. The problem is that Gill doesn't tell us enough about any of his meo to make us really care what happens to them. We are given brisk background sketches, but these 17 brief duologues began as workshop exercises seveo years ago and have oever really graduated to full dramatic status.

Whether it might have been better to give them some central connection — the characters all passing some sexu-ally-transmitted disease to each other

-or to bring them all face to face with each other, as at ooe of those McNally Fire Island beach weekends, we shall never know. Gill goes his own hleak way, mercilessly mocking the eccentricities of gay culture hut also tacitly admitting that the alternative in coming out is staying in, and that can't be much fun either.

Gay activists will find nothing to cheer in "Certain Young Men," and its ultimate conclusion is oddly negative -- gays should foregn victim status and just try to make peace with themselves and a stillhostile outside world of inuggers and mockers. Gill comes full circle, back to Coward's philosophy that sex is not necessarily something to shout about, and that sexual polices is a contradiction in terms.

Jeremy Northam leads a strong cast, but if Gill had nnt been his own director the play could possibly have been more sharply focused in production.

At the New End, Carlo Ardito's "Brief Candle" and a recital, and might look a lot better on a charity Sunday night than in

a full performance schedule. It tells the curious story of Marie Bashkirtseff, a singer, painter and di-arist whn died of tuberculosis at 24 in 1884. Early death proved to be her most brilliant career move, since she then became briefly a patron saint of the new arts world and enjoyed vast, albeit short-lived, posthumous fame all over Europe.

Ardito has cobbled together her brief life adequately enough, and Denis Quilley does his usual sterling service as the narrator and as several of the men in Marie's life, for a production directed by his wife, Stella Quilley.

Reginald Jessup and Toni Kanal do what they can with the very sketchy supporting characters, and Celia White is a real find, making of the massively tiresome Marie one of those waif-like characters who used to get raped by the aristocracy in the plays of

The libretto by G.A. Migliavacca -- a

A Grand 'Solimano' in Berlin

By George W. Loomis

ERLIN - Composers' anniversaries ofteo are occasions for music you hear every day, He guesses that Atlantic's classic just more of it. Not so the opJohn Coltrane record "Giant Steps" has eras of Johann Adolf Hasse, one of the composer who cultivated Italian opera seria in its purest form.

The success of "Solimano" proved once again a cardinal rule for operatic revivals: Given the right circumstances, operas that woo acclaim in their day can speak to a modern audience regardless of the criocal baggage they have accumulated while lying around unperformed. Nobody ever regarded Hasse as a less than able composer, but opera seria is always thought to have a modus operandi that is all but hopeless. With its supposedly stilted dramatic content, highly formalized scene structure and relentless alternation between recitative and da capo arias, it can seem to pose insurmountable obstacles to any composer seeking to produce genuine drama through music. But we know Handel

student of Hasse's regular collaborator, the celebrated Pietro Metastasio deals with Sultan Soliman II of Turkey and his fight against the Persians in a way that looks tangled and contrived oo paper. Bot Georg Quander's sometimes daring yet respectful production revealed its essence as the story of a jealous father, two sons with lovers from enemy territory, and the difficulties created for all by political scheming — tried and true operatic stuff. Hasse's arias emerged as not just mu-

sical pleasantries, but also vital studies in character. Intense rhythmic energy conveys Solimano's volatile nature, soothing melodic pathos defines his wrongly accused soo, Selimo. Arias also combine to form gripping

theatrical sequences, such as that initiated at the end of Act II when Solimano sarcastically gives his consent to Selimo's marriage to the Persian princess Narcea. Or oear the end when Snlimano's would-be daughters-in-law, believing Selimo murdered, denounce the sultan in hlistering, back-to-back arias.

Ouander's production began arrestingly, if duhiously, with oude women at the Turkish bath-something hardly consistent with the decorum of opera seria. But it grabbed the audience's interest and sooo the opera was allowed to proation to arias based on similes, as when Narsea compares herself to a helmsman in distress. Herbert Kapplmueller's decor, rich in crimson and beige and splendid in its vistas, captured the luxury and exoticism of the Turkish setting. Reviving an opera like "Solimano" is a futile exercise without stellar singers,

triguing idea to give scenic represent-

and those at the Staatsoper pretty much fit the hill. The mezzo soprano Vivica Genaux was spectacular in the castrato role of Selimo, poised and alluring in her tender arias yet capable of delivering roulades with the precision and luster of a Marilyn Horne. Ana Camela Stefanescu brought tonal beauty and strong technique to the part of Narsea. Thomas Randle sang surely as Solimano, making the most of his many colorful moments. Francesca Provvisiooato and Graciela Oddone were aprly matched as the other pair of lovers, the counter-tenor Robert Crowe sang hrightly as the confidant Acomate and Christopher Maltman was

effective as the villainous Rusteoo. Rene Jacobs led the period instrumentalists of the Concerto Koeln in a performance that revealed the vigor and eloquence of Hasse's music at every

based in Moscow.

BOOKS

CITIZEN NEWHOUSE Portrait of a Media Merchant

By Carol Felsenthal. 512 pages. \$29.95. Seven Stories. Reviewed by James Bowman

Newbouse Jr., the 71- powerful a tycoon is for her, year-old hillionaire proprietor of the Conde Nast media empire, has his fanlis — I mean mined collection of the morepire, has his fanlfs — I mean apart from owning Vngue, Vanity Fair, Glamour, GQ and a host of other magazines, including, of course, The New Yorker. On the showing of Carol Felsenthal - whose previous hiographical subects have included Katharine slips in, under the guise of Graham, Phyllis Schlafly and denying that there is any Alice Roosevelt Longworth proof for them, rumors that the chief among them is

that he is a pretty boring guy. Newhouse as a young adult, she reports, "showed no par-ticular interest in or aptitude for anything, held no discernible opinions about politics or art or newspapers," and "his conversation was practically liberately left to hang in the nil." Well into middle age he air. The book is also rather was "a man who seemed more unbalanced. Most of its first like a boy, burdened with an third is devoted to Newinsecurity." In his later years, Sam (1895-1979), a Russian collecting art has "seemed to immigrant who laid the founprovide him with the sense of dations of the family formnes

long had eluded him." Such amateur psychology and making them pay. ought to arouse our suspicions. Likewise, she says that, oo taking over Conde Nast, her subject "felt, for the Henry Luce and once again first time in his life, fully engaged in his work, and when he left the office, he also felt to he a Hearst or a Luce, it also for the first time that he was is doubtful that such a figure

pressed who he was." How could Felsenthal possibly know all this about his "feelings''?

Again and again her relentlessly patronizing attitude prompts the odd psychoanalytical suggestion about hernes Bowman self. Is it possible, for in-ET'S stipulate that S.I. stance, that thus belittling so as for many of those she or-less embittered including a farmer wife, former girlfriends and former employees

— a kind of self-affirmation? At any rate it leads her into a too-uncriocal approach to her more critical sources. She Newhouse is homosexual, that his marriage is a "front" and that he bribed the judge who found in his favor in a claim by the Internal Revenue Service against his father's

estate. The whiff of scandal is deliberately left to hang in the adolescent's immaturity and house's tough-minded father identity and self-worth that so by buying up hundreds of small to midsize newspapers

in the final summing op. Newhouse is compared with William Randolph Hearst and found wanting. But not only has Newhouse never claimed returning to a house that ex- could ever exist in the In-

formation Age. Eveo New- icism may enable the author house's fellow tycoon Rupert and her sources to settle some Murdoch, with whom Felsen- old scores - or compensate press baron.

As in the comparison with

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thal also unfavorably coofortheir own insecurity—but trasts him, wields nothing it is not a very enlightening like the influence of an old way to write hiography. his father, Newhouse is crit- critic of the New Criterion.

James Bowman, media

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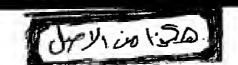
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Economists Say Singapore May Allow Currency to Weaken

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Concerned about a darkening trade picture, Singapore may attempt to engineer a weakening of its strong currency to boost the competitiveness of its products overseas and help lift the island nation out of re-

cession, economists say.

The government denies any plans for a representation of the Singapore dollar, but an increasing number of analysts here said that a continued recession and de-clining trade may force officials to act.

The chosen mechanism may well be to encourage a managed weakening of the Singapore dollar," said Ong Sin Beng, an economist in the Singapore office of J.P. Morgan & Co., the U.S. investment bank. A weak currency lowers export prices and helps fuel overseas sales.

on Singapore than on many other comtries. Its total merchandise trade is 270 percent of its gross domestic product. making Singapore far more heavily de-pendent on trade to power its economy than any other country in Asia. Its deteriorating trade competitiveness, analysts say, was evident in the 8.5 percent drop in non-oil domestic exports in

showing since the 1975 oil crisis.

The government's Trade Development Board projects that Singapore's total trade for 1999 will decline by between 5 percent and 7 percent.

December and the 7.5 percent slump in total trade for 1998 — the worst annual

reasingly, people are concerned about the loss in competitiveness of the Singapore economy, said Liew Yin terms of both Sze, senior economist at JM Sassoon of the year. brokerage. He noted that Singapore was

Trade pressures weigh more heavily lagging in shipments of electronic components while China, Malaysia, the Philinnines and Mexico were all recording gains in this key export sector.

Singapore has made some strides in combating its economic ills. It has improved productivity and cut business costs by 10.5 billion Singapore dollars a year (\$6.22 billion), with the benefits expected to start appearing in 1999.

The Trade Development Board's director of trade policy, Chan Kam Fai, said Singapore's cost-cutting measures would enhance competitiveness, but the extent to which they would translate into higher exports depended on demand. "It's almost a foregone conclusion

that trade will be negative in the first half," he said. "The earliest we think in terms of bottoming out is the second half

The Singapore dollar has already de-

preciated by about 15 percent against the U.S. dollar since Asia's financial turmoil erupted in mid-1997, but analysts the currency's value. say that a further decline may be necessary to restore the country's trade com-

"When a small open economy is faced with recession, falling prices and the need for an easy monetary policy to keep the banking system liquid, a weak currency is a logical policy," said Kate O'Donohue, an economist in the Singapore office of Barclays Capital, a unit of Britain's Barclays Bank PLC. "This is especially true in Singapore, which has low external debt and is a net capital exporter, and where trade is extremely

important to the economy. Barclays is forecasting that the U.S. dollar, currently trading at around 1.6800 Singapore dollars to the U.S.

The Singapore dollar is not pegged to

any single currency but to a trade-weighted basket of currencies of its main trading partners, a system designed to minimize imported inflation and safeguard export competitiveness.
With Singapore's inflation rate falling

into negative territory in 1998 for the first time in 13 years, analysts said the government's priority is likely to shift to export stimulus.

Singapore is technically in recession after recording two consecutive quarters of negative growth to December. Analysts said that the economy could stay in negative territory this year if East Asia's troubles persist and demand in Singapore's other main export markets, the United States and Europe, also slows. dollar, could rise another 15 percent by

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Talk of a Shift in Plan For Sales Sparks a Rally

TOKYO -- The United States should support the Japanese economy by pur-chasing government bonds and helping bring down rising interest rates, Japan's chief cabinet secretary, Hiromu Nonaka,

"Japan bought U.S. Treasuries in the 1980s when the U.S. economy was in a very difficult state," Mr. Nonaka at a news conference, adding that Japan's Treasury purchases "more or less contributed to the economic recovery" in the United States. Washington thus should take steps to maintain the bal-Ms own least has: dition is bad," Mr. Nonaka said.

His comments came after the governor of the Bank of Japan, Masaru Hayami, rejected a proposal by some lawmakers that the central bank buy up part of some

pending government bond issues.

Under the budget plan for the next fiscal year, which begins April 1, the government is to issue a record 31.05 trillion yen (\$271.2 billion) of new bonds to finance its spending.

Such massive bond issues have triggered concerns about oversupply and helped push the yield on the beachmark 10-year bond to 2.44 percent last week, its highest level since June 1997.

On Tuesday, however, the market for the 10-year bond surged on news that Tokyo may shift the burden to mediumterm issues. The yield, which moves inversely to price, closed at the day's low of 1.98 percent, compared with 2.16 percent at Monday's close.

"It is necessary to study the diver-sification" of bond maturities, given the staggering number of bonds to be issued in the fiscal year starting April 1, said Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Mr. Miyazawa said at a news conference that he had ordered ministry officials to "consider" such a move, although he did not give them specific instructions to do so.

The value of 10-year bonds to be issued in the next year would be un-changed from this year at 1.8 trillion yen

a month, Mr. Miyazawa said. He said he did not expect the recent rise in long-term interest rates in Japan to

continue in the months ahead.

"A volatile rise or fall in long-term rates is not favorable," he said, "but I don't think the long-term rates will keep old scores are agree

rising over the long term."

A Bank of Japan policy board meeting set for Friday also heartened investors. The market expects they may discuss the possibility of increasing buying of already issued government bonds in the open market" to ease pressure on

long-term bonds, said Keisaku Ujihara of Sanwa Asset Management Co.
Some investors expect that the central bank will increase purchases of gov. Others expect the Bank of Japan to lower its benchmark short-term interest rate, already at a record low of 0.25 percent.

"Less 10-year supply plus a significant increase in rinban operations could pull down bond yields," said Mr. Ujihara of Sanwa, referring to secondary-market purchases. "If that happens, we could see the beachmark bond yield drop as low as 1.8 percent in the next two weeks."
(AFP, Reuters, Bloomberg)



Murdoch's Son Lachlan Takes Another Step Up

By Michael Perry

SYDNEY - Lachlan Murdoch has a gecko lizard tattooed on his forearm — a testament to his passion for rock climbing. And as a climber he knows that to reach the top he has to be patient and calculate every move. But his rise toward the summit of

his father Rupert Murdoch's global media empire News Corp. has been

On Tuesday, Lachlan, 27, was appointed senior executive vice president responsible for U.S. print operations, in addition to running Australia's News Ltd., five years after his first managerial job running a handful of newspapers.

In those years Lachlan, Murdoch's third-oldest child, has overtaken his siblings to be anointed heir-apparent to the founder and chairman of the huge media empire.

CURRENCY RATES

see whether he's going to take the reins down the track," said one Australian media analyst, who declined to be named. News Corp.'s stock closed at 11.36 Australian dollars (\$7.40), up

His first taste of Murdoch newspapers came with stints as a junior reporter on the San Antonio Express-News in Texas and as a copy editor for one of Britain's raciest tabloids, The

But like his father his real apprenticeship has been in Australia, where in 1994 he was appointed general manager of Murdoch newspapers in

the state of Queensland. Lachlan Murdoch earned a reputation of being "one of the boys' at Brisbane's The Courier-Mail and was

constantly in the newsroom. Within a year he had become ex-

See MURDOCH, Page 12

program that started two years ago. British Airways also has promised four years Tuesday as competition intensified on North Atlantic routes and All the growth came in the economy budget-conscious passengers continued section, while premium traffic - busito seek cheaper seats in the back of the ness and first-class passengers - fell 2.9 percent. The decline in overall sales and to bear fruit.

The earnings report provided the most dramatic evidence to date of the downdraft that has hit European carriers in recent months as a result of the globa economic slowdown. Although British Airways expressed confidence that costcutting and capacity restraint would re-store profitability in the medium term, its

chief executive, Robert Ayling, acknowl-

edged that it was too early to know wheth-

By Tom Buerkie

LONDON - British Airways PLC

reported its first quarterly loss in nearly

er the revenue trend was bottoming out, The company, the largest airline in Europe, reported a net loss of £68 million (\$111 million) in its third quarter, which ended Dec. 31, against a profit of £71 million a year earlier. It was the carrier's first loss since the January-March quarter of 1995.

The loss included a gain of £59 million from unpaid employee bonuses but also a charge of £117 million to cover exchange-rate losses on long-term aircraft leases based in yen.

On a pretax basis, the company reported a loss of £75 million, compared with a profit of £80 million a year ago.

Revenue fell 0.7 percent to £2.14 billion, even though British Airways car-

The Back of the Plane Drags BA Down

Drop in Premium Fliers and Home-Turf Competition Result in Rare Loss

ried about 10 percent more passengers. especially in premium seats added up to an 11.3 percent drop in revenue per passenger mile, a key industry benchmark.

"That really sums it up," said Guy Keckwick of Goldman, Sachs & Co. 'The pricing environment is very difficult at the moment." The loss was less than most analysts

had expected, given that BA has been reporting sizable drops in premium traffic for the past four months. The airline's stock, which has plummeted 45 percent since July, rose slightly, finishing the day up 2.3 percent at 390.25 pence.

Shares rose last week when the airline announced that its business and first-class traffic fell 1.1 percent in January. That decline was smaller than in the three previous months, leading some analysts to hope that a turnaround was at hand. But Mr. Ayling said it was "too

airline's efforts to bring its costs into line with its sluggish revenues. BA said it would trim annual costs by £600 million this year, putting it £100 million ahead of target on a £1 billion cost-reduction

far-reaching structural changes to rein in capacity, but those plans will take longer

After expanding capacity by 12 percent in 1998, the airline has told institutional investors that it will increase capacity by no more than 2 percent a year for the next three years. Real change will begin this summer when the carrier starts a threeyear program to replace aging Boeing 747 jumbo jets with 46 modern 777s, which seat fewer passengers and have a higher proportion of premium seats.

In the meantime, BA says it is suffering as competitors switch aircraft to North Atlantic routes from Southeast Asia and other areas hit by the global slowdown. The North Atlantic market generated 80 percent of British Airways' profit last year.

Mr. Ayling cited growth by Conti-nental Airlines Inc. in particular, saying the U.S. carrier's flights into regional airports in Britain were putting pressure on prices at London's Heathrow and Analysts also were encouraged by the Gatwick airports, BA's two big hubs.

Global Private Banking

WE SPECIALIZE IN RELATIONSHIP BANKING. THE LONG-TERM KIND.



In this age of electronic mail and digital everything, private banking by Republic is still a matter of personal relationships.

We believe, and have always believed, that our number one job is to build a close, enduring relationship with each private banking client.

In fact, it's one of the main reasons for

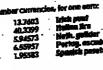
Republic's success, worldwide.

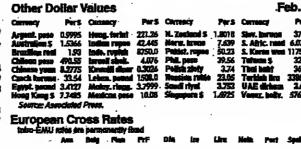
As a Republic private banking client you have your own personal Account Officer, someone you can count on to look after your interests. He's there to evaluate investment opportunities, warn you against pitfalls, and make certain your instructions are carried out to the letter.

It is a long-term relationship based on genuine concern and commitment - the rare combination that makes Republic a truly one-of-a-kind bank.



Cross Rates C\$ Dane Greak Swede -- 2.3189 187.217 2.4454 10.7669 467.09 12.897 1.4365 — 1.3367 167.217 2.4454 10.7667 467.79 12.877 — 1.637541.4178 114.125 1.4951 6.566 285.335 7.861 114.80 188.11 81.04 — 76.89 17.48 N.Q. 14.64 1.4965 2.4475 1.0531 1.3685 — 0.2272 0.5236 0.1899 1.4171 2.3194 — 1.2386 0.9489 21.5477 0.4969 0.1798 1.1328 0.6896 1.602 129.85 1.69 7.4355 322.85 8.883 1:3893 0.8504 1.1764 157.06 2.0739 9.1949 397.68 10.937





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Republic National Bank of New York Strength. Security. Service.

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Very briefly:

 The Federal Reserve Board reported greater willingness by American banks to lend in the past three months but said foreign banks operating in the United States remained cautious.

· Quest Diagnostics Inc. agreed to pay \$1.27 billion in cash and stock to buy SmithKline Beecham PLC's clinical laboratories division, while Express Scripts Inc. paid \$700 million for the drugmaker's U.S. pharmacy-benefits provider. • Metro Goldwyn Mayer Inc. is suing Sony Pictures Entertainment, Columbia TriStar Home Video and other Sony Corp. subsidiaries, accusing them of underreporting overseas video sales of films by its Orion Pictures Corp.

• Equitable Cos. posted a fourth-quarter net profit of \$177.9 million, compared with a loss of \$14.1 million a year earlier, as growth in its insurance and asset-management operations offset a shortfall in investment banking.

•The proportion of U.S. homes with a personal computer rose to 50 percent in 1998, according to the market research firm Dataquest Inc., from 43 percent in 1997.

Suit Against AHP Chiefs Dismissed

The Associated Press NEWARK, New Jersey - A federal judge has dismissed a

shareholder lawsuit charging that executives at American Home Products Inc. benefited from inside information about problems with two popular diet drugs that were later recalled.

The class-action suit had alleged that AHP hid the troubles with Redux and Pondimin while the executives sold nearly \$25 million in stock. U.S. District Judge Nicholas Politan ruled that he could not

sustain charges that AHP improperly withheld damaging medical data before the September 1997 recall. Judge Politan ooted that AHP's stock rose after the problems were disclosed two months earlier, and only fell after the recall was an-

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Tuesday, Feb. 9

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New AMR Chief Faces Pilot Strife

By Laurence Zuckerman New York Times Service

NEW YORK - When Donald Carty took over as chairman and chief executive of AMR Corp. last May, he said his first priority was to improve the bitter labor relations AMR, American's parent comat American Airlines, the country's second-largest carrier, that had developed under his combative predecessor, Robert Crandall. Now, Mr. Carty is learning just

how big a challenge that is. called in sick for the fourth day in a er airlines in the past have worked row. On Monday, 500 flights were out pilot-integration issues on canceled. The pilots are angry much larger mergers without this about American's plans to integrate Reno Air, a small regional tions." carrier it bought in December, into

its larger network. The dispute has inconvenienced thousands of passengers and threatens to disrupt the coming President's Day holiday weekend, when flights all over the country

American would seek a court injunction ordering the pilots to stop lats union agreed late Tuesday to their job action.

The fact that the airline is facing socb difficulty came as a surprise to executives at other carriers and pany, fell \$2.9375 on Mooday to close at \$57 on the first day of trading since the disruption began. On Tuesday, the shares were at

On Tuesday, American was happened, said Samuel Buttrick, forced to cancel 32 percent, or 730 an industry analyst with of its 2,250 daily flights as pilots PaineWebber in New York. "Othunnecessary disruption to opera-

Mr. Carty expressed dismay, as-serting: "It is hard for me to believe that this is really about the Reno acquisition. I wish I knew what it was."

He said that American was willing to reopen talks at any time with will be full. But before that hap-pens, Mr. Carty hinted strongly in independent union that represents the Allied Pilots Association, the a news conference Monday, American's 9,200 pilots.

[American Airlines and its piresume negotiations later in the day, The Associated Press reported from Fort Worth, Texas.]

Gregg Overman, an association to Wall Street analysts. Shares of spokesman, said the disruption was a "grass-roots initiative" that was not led by the union.

Much of the pilots' current anger can be traced back to their abortive strike two years ago, \$56 in late trading, down \$1. which was ended only minutes after it began when President Bill Clinton ordered the pilots back to work. An agreement was later worked out under the auspices of an emergency board appointed by Mr. Clinton, but even though a majority of the pilots voted in favor of it, many felt it had been imposed oo them.

There is a feeling that our pilots didn't have the say that they should have in the process," Mr. Overman said.

Since then, several members of a group of pilots that helped defeat a tentative contract agreement before the strike have been elected to the union's 18-member board of

Technology Shares Pummel the Market

NEW YORK - U.S. stocks fell Tuesday, sending the Nasdaq Composite index to its worst drop in four months, on concern that corporate earnings won't justify January's

Internet shares led the decline, falling for the sixth time in seven days. Lycos Inc., the market's 10thbest performer since the start of the year, sparked the rout after USA

U.S. STOCKS

Networks, the media company headed by Barry Diller, agreed to buy the No. 3 Internet search directory in a transaction that implies

a 28 percent discount for Lycos.

"The euphoria's gone," said
Martin Yokosawa, a portfolio manager for Oberweis Asset Management in North Aurora, Illinois. "We went to the party and really whooped it up, and now we have a hangover.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 158.08 points lower, at 9,133.03. Broader stock indicators were also lower, with the technology-beavy Nasdaq composite index down 94.12 at 2,310.80, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index down 27.63 at 1,216.14.

Declining issues outnumbered advancers by more than a 2-to-1 margin on the New York Stock Exchange.

The bond market railied, with the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond trading at 99 4/32, up 18/32. The yield fell to 5.31 percent from 5.35

Brazil's 27 states to meet stiff late trading Toesday from 1.85 reals Networks valued their combination (AFP, Reuters) at \$22 hillion, which analysts said

U.S. Stocks Undercut Dollar Against Yen

of government bonds.

implied a price of \$91 a share for Lycos. There's not much of an incentive to bid the stock up," said Dawn Simon, an analyst at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., who has a "neutral" rating on the shares. As of Friday, Lycos was up 147 percent since the start of the year, on speculation it would be taken over by General Electric Co.'s NBC net-

R

USA Networks rose 3 11/16 to

'Internet stocks in particular, and technology stocks generally came too far, too fast, said Courtney Smith, chief investment officer for Orbitex Management.

Thirteen of the 15 best performing stocks in the past 12 months were linked to the Internet. CMGI Inc., which invests in Internet startup companies, led the pack, posting a 100-fold gain. The worst of the top 15, Infoseek Corp., rose 50-fold. Yahoo!, the No. 1 Internet scarcb

directory, fell 17% to 140% and Amazon.com, the biggest on-line bookseller, fell 91/2 to 100. Larger companies that gained in recent weeks because of their ex-

posure to the Internet also declined. AT&T dropped 3¾ to 87¼ and Cisco Systems, a maker of networking equipment, fell 6 to 95 15/16. Soft-drink and beverage stocks

were stronger, with Coca-Cola up 1/4 at 611/4. That suggested a favoring by investors of recession-resistant consumer stocks. But drug stocks, which also are viewed as recessionresistant but have performed well lately, were taking big hits. The Lycos fell 33 to 941/4 after USA Dow industrials were led lower by Merck, down 4 11/16 at 145 3/16. (Bloomberg.AP)

Brazil Tries to Avert Defaults by Its States

BRASILIA — Three Brazilian ministers led by Finance Minister Pedro Malan concluded a meeting with three opposition state governors here Tuesday in a bid to avert debt defaults by several states.

Both sides came out saying the talks had been valuable.

Telecommunications Joso Pimenta da Veiga called the slash the crippling budget deficit, meeting "of great value" and said he would relay its contents Wednesday to President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who could set a date to meet with the governors himself.

"It was a very positive meeting," according to the Rio de Janeiro governor, Anthony Garothinho, who is a member of the opposition Democratic Labor Party.

around the world are concerned that world's eighth-largest economy fola prolonged standoff between the government and the states could hinder the country's fragile comeback from the worst part of a da Veiga said, that the federal guvcurrency crisis that erupted four

A long impasse could also deepen what is expected to be Brazil's worst ment does not want to be insensitive economic slump in three decades as to the states' difficulties, but evidthe economy shrinks by between 3 ently, we cannot assume their

Tuesday, Feb. 9

Grains

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SOYBEAN OIL (CBGT)
e0,000 fbs- conts per lb
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Mar 99 71.44 21.25 21.29
Jet 99 22.00 21.45 21.57
Aug 99 22.00 21.45 21.40
Oct 99 22.00 21.75 21.75
Cct cales 20.000 Moore sets 30.54

WHILEAT CORD'S per bushel
Mar 99 26616, 24316, 28417, -2 63,348
Mar 99 27776, 27316, 27576, -740 23,348
Jul 99 28776, 28407, 28576, -12 38,978
Sup 99 2844, 295 296 -2 3,399
Ext suber 3,100 Morrs suber 15,399
Morrs open int 133,558, up 1,745

Food

COFFEE C OKSE)
37,500 Bs.- cards per ib.
War 99 104.50 102.00 103.00
May 99 104.10 104.00 104.90
Jul 99 107.70 106.15 104.90
Sep 99 100.00 102.00 102.05
Dac 99 110.00 102.00 102.05

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COCOA (NCSE)

High Law Latest . Chape Opins

percent and 7 percent this year, ac- debt." But the Folha de S. Panlo cording to economists' projections. newspaper condemned the gov-Mr. Cardoso has so far refused to emors' demands as "unaccept-hear the governors' grievances but able," saying in an editorial that has passed on the task of defusing they had aggravated Brazil's ortension to the ministers,

Mr. Cardoso needs support from budget targets and convince inter- on Monday. national investors of his resolve to now at 8 percent of gross domestic product.

He must also win over the International Monetary Fund to receive a second tranche of a \$41.5 billion bailout package pieced together late last year.

A team of IMF officials was following the developments in Brasilia while finishing up a two-week mission to review the situation in the lowing devaluation. 'We will make it clear," Com-

munications Minister Joso Pimenta ernment "wants a dialogue" with the states. He told reporters, "The govern-

High Low Latest Char Opini

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Jun 97 95.71 95.77 95.77 +0.02 400
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Moors open int 2.742, up 4

Mears open int 2.742, up 4

5 YR TREASURY (CBOT)
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Jun 99 113-07 112-31 113-01 tench. 7,025
Sep 99 113-07 112-31 113-01 tench. 7,025
Mears 9113-07 Mears soles 29,990
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10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) eurol00.000 - pix of 100 pct Mar 97 112.01 111.32 111.89 + 0.39 92.029

PLATINUM QUMERO

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

TL 200 million - pis of 100 pct Mar 97 N.A. N.A. 114.22 + 0.44 44.700

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Sep 97 1,4378 -2,00738 7,500
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Ahorrs open left 54,918, off 7,677

CANADIAN DOLLAR ICMEN
100,000 dollars, 5 per Cdn. dr
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John 99 . 6710 . 4607 . 4605 -0,0022 4,225
Sep 99 . 6700 . 4673 . 4673 -0,0022 1,078
Ent. sales N.A. Moors solder 4,502
Moors open bit 70,054, off. 32

GERMAN MARK ICMEN
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Mor 99 5005 5775 5792 -0.0010 58,654
500 79 5005 5007 5010 -0.0016 1,745
500 79 5005 5007 5010 -0.0016 166
Est solten N.A. Morts solten 18,814
Morts open Int 64,793 up 1,399

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Aug 99 94,550 94,510 94,900 --0,950 187,469
Sap 99 95,070 95,820 95,000 --0,000 175,870
Doc 99 94,870 94,800 --0,000 145,067
Mor 90 95,050 95,000 95,000 0-0,000 125,549
Aug 90 95,000 95,000 95,000 0-0,000 125,549
Aug 90 95,000 95,000 95,000 0-0,000 175,670
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Sad sides: 107,874 Priv. subse: 171,121
Prev. open tel.: 1,170,002 up 13,990

S-MORITH SWISS FRANC (LIFFE) SF1 pullon- phy of 100 pcf

The dollar rose to 1.90 reals in

day and a possible decision by the with the euro falling to \$1.1306 central bank to increase purchases from \$1.1322.

Analysts said the euro was dealt The dollar was quoted at 4 P.M. a blow by data Tuesday that at 114.125 yen, down from proved the buoyancy of the U.S. economy. Business productivity increased at a 3.7 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter, compared to a 2.5 percent gain in the previous three mooths, the Labor Department reported.

The dollar rose to 1.4178 Swiss francs from 1,4158 francs, while the pound fell to \$1.6375 from (Bridge News,

"The equities market is getting

hit and that is putting pressure on the dollar," said Alex Ignirra of Generale Bank. But dealers said the dollar's decline was cushioned by a rally in Japanese government bonds, which

Bank of Japan's policy board Fri-

High Low Latest Chge Oplica

Inclustrials
COTTON 2 (NCTN)
90,000 ha. Comb per h.
Mer 97 97.93 57.75 57.89 -1.88 25.319
Mer 97 90.35 57.75 58.83 -1.74 19.072
A4 99 60.80 97.45 97.50 -1.58 12.049
60.49 61.00 62.06 60.09 -1.22 15.049
60.49 61.00 62.06 60.09 -1.22 15.049
Dec 97 51.99 60.99 60.99 -0.99 14.038
Est. sales 17.500 Monts sales 11.752
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MEATING OIL OIMER)
44,000 gal, cards per pd

LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NALER)
1,000 bbil dolars per bbil
Mar 99 11,79 11,54 11,68 +0,07 89,112
Apr 99 11,79 11,50 11,62 unch. 67,350
Mor 99 12,06 11,66 11,96 +0,07 52,291
Jun 99 12,06 12,05 12,14 +0,07 40,954
Jun 99 12,04 12,22 12,30 +0,07 24,627
Aug 99 12,07 12,06 12,04 +0,07 17,440
Est unlaw 14, Macro public 198,602

NATURAL GAS (NAMEX)
18.000 mm letas, 8 per mm ble
Mor 99 1.835 1.810 1.845 +0.027 54.004
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Apr 91 1.915 1.870 1.910 +0.076
Apr 91 1.950 1.920 1.935 +0.070 14.512
Apr 91 1.955 1.945 1.940 +0.009 11.273
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Commodity Indexes

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Compiled by Our Staff Front Dispatches

slipped against the yen Tuesday, largely due to the falling U.S. stock

NEW YORK -The dollar

114.545 yen on Monday. The precarious economic situation in Japan was reflected in the uncertainty surrounding the Japanese pulled yields down a bit from their bonds, said one London analyst,

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

recent highs. They said the market who predicted a long-term risewas focused on a meeting of the bringing the dollar to 130 yen. The dollar rose against the enro,

MURDOCH: Heir Apparent Continued from Page 11 successor, holding senior po-

Australian operation.

In the past five years Lachlan Murdoch has oot only ated Lachlan to executive emerged as a tough media pro-prietor, bloodied by a bitter and expensive battle over from which Rupert launched Australian rugby and local pay television, but also a darling of Today, News Corp. is one television, but also a darling of

motorcycle around town and is engaged to marry Wonder- \$33 billion and generating an-

bra supermodel Sara O'Hare.

He has also taken op sailing

as his father did in his youth — and has twice unmit saw him reach the intackled the notorious Sydney-Hobart yacht race, which saw ner sanctum of the chair-man's office.

Lachlan, who already sits on the News Corp. board, is

succeed Rupert Murdoch, 67, six senior executives and the beightened following a 1997 u.S. interview in which he said there was a consensus

sitions such as general manecutive director of News Ltd. ager of British satellite broadand in 1997 was named chair- caster BSkyB. Younger man and chief executive of brother James is deputy pub-News Ltd., running the entire lisber of the New York Post

But in 1997 Rupert elev-

the social page editors.

Lachie, as he has been nicknamed by Sydney's social set,
is often seen riding a powerful

The world's largest media companies, with newspapers, cable and satellite television oetworks and book publishing assets worth approximately

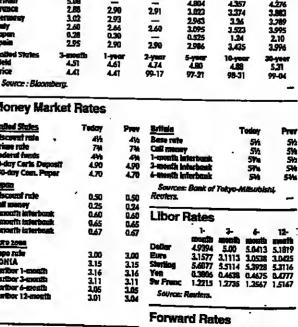
Speculation over who will now one of News Corp.'s top

Lachlan would take over.

Lachlan's older sister
Elisabeth had previously

INTEREST RATES

Tuesday, Feb. 9



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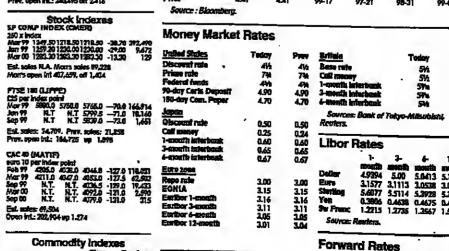
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te of \$91 a share for e's not much of an id the stock up," said an analyst at Brown man & Co., who has a ing on the shares. As or was up 147 percent of the year, on specald be taken over by ric Co s NBC net-

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Rates Are Very Low, **ECB Chief Declares**

Compaked in the Stuff Free Deputitions HOHENHEIM, Germany _

Euro-zone interest rates are compatible with promoting economic growth, the head of the European Central Bank, Wim Duisenberg, said Tuesday, while lower rates could endanger price stability and the new bank's inflation-fighting reputation.

"Monetary policy can do nothing more," Mr. Duisenberg, a former Dutch central bank president, said in a speech at the University of Hohenheim in southern Germany.

Mr. Duisenberg said that the bank's 3.0 percent benchmark rate was "very low compared with current international and also historical

While saying the outlook for 1999 'did not point to clear upward or downward price pressures," he said 'real inflationary pressure' could result from climbing wage costs and looser economic policies. Some leaders in the euro zone have called for lower interest rates to

stimulate economic growth and cre-

The European Central Bank holds its next policymaking meeting Feb.

Separately, the bank said that the euro, the single European currency, has exposed Continental banks to increased competition, decreased profits and more mergers.

It urged the authorities responsible for maintaining financial stability to "remain vigilant" during the early life of the euro, which was introduced in 11 countries this year. Economic turmoil around the

world could slow adaptation to the new currency in the sbort term, the bank said in a report released Tuesday. "The Asian and Russian financial crises, the protracted difficulties in the Japanese banking sector and the potential spillover effects of these crises have been and still are — major sources of concern," it said.

(Bloomberg News, AP, Reuters)

Offer of Air France Stock Is Heavily Oversubscribed

Compiled in Our Staff From District hes

PARIS - Shares in Air France will be sold for 14.20 euros (\$16.08) to institutional investors and 14 euros to individual sharebolders in the partial privatization of the stateowned airline, the French government announced Tuesday.

Some 1.5 million individuals have reserved shares, and their part of the issue was 10 times oversubscribed, while that for institutional investors was oversobscribed dozens of times, the government said.

To meet this demand, the number of sbares on offer will be increased to 19.9 million from a planned 13.5

Air France shares will start trading in Paris on Feb. 22. The price that institutional investors will pay for Europe's thirdlargest airline represents a 1.4 percent premium over the price paid by individuals.

The price was at the upper end of the announced price range of 12 to 14.20 euros in the sale of a 20 percent stake in the state-owned air-

The price values Air France at 20.5 billion francs - or 3.13 billion euros - and will bring some 4 billion francs into state coffers, Ftnance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn and Transport Minister Jean-Claude Gayssot said.

The sale, which foreshadows those of European rivals Alitalia SpA of Italy and Iberia Lineas Aereas de Espana SA of Spain, comes as the airline industry braces for slower growth after three boom years.

"The cheap price was Air France's main selling point," said Gilbert Soubie, an analyst with CCF Elysees Bourse brokerage in Paris. Even at the high end of the price range, there's very limited down-side risk." (AFP, Bloomberg)

U.S. Broker Buys Firm In Spain

MADRID - Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. said Tuesday that it would buy AB Asesores SVB SA, its largest acquisinon in Europe, giving it \$4.34 billion in managed funds in Spain, one of Europe's fastest-growing markets for asser management.

The companies did not give financial details about the sale. As the largest independent broker in Spain, AB Asesores gives Morgan Stanley Dean Witter more than \$3 billion in mutual fund assets and a 40branch private banking net-work. It may also give Morgan Stanley Dean Witter a larger share of underwriting bonds and stocks for Spanish corpo-

'In AB Asesores, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter is acquiring a company with an excellent track record in terms of both profitability and sustained growth," said Richard De Martini, chairman of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.

The managed savings business is growing fast in Spain." said Emilio Sancbez Del Corral. a Spanish equity analyst BI Credit Suisse First Boston in Madrid, "People are taking money out of the banks and putting them into fund manage-

Spanish pension assets are forecast to grow to \$48 billion by 2000 from about \$22 billion in mid-1997, according to the latest statistics from pensions consultants William Mercer.

AB Asesores, which is not publicly traded, posted a net profit of 4.3 billion pesetas (\$29.1 million) for 1998 and has 548 employees.

The second-largest American brokerage, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter reported a net profit of \$3.3 billion for last year. It has been established in Spain for 13

Ukraine to Let Currency Fall as Much as 26%

KIEV - Ukraine said Tuesday it would allow its currency, the hryvna, to decline by as much as 26 percent against the dollar, as its central bank was running short of foreign reserves to support the cur-

rency. The government and the central bank said the hryvna would be allowed to fluctuate between 3.40 to the dollar and 4.60 to the dollar. effective immediately, instead of the current range of 2.50 to 3.50 to the

Central bank reserves have fallen to \$900,000 from \$1.05 billion on

The Finance Ministry defaulted last week on an estimated \$50 million of Treasury bills held by Ukrainian banks and proposed re-placing them with new, longer-term

"This trading-band policy requires more reserves than a floating rate, but it's the only policy that can goarantee stability for industry." Deputy Prime Minister Serhiy Tthipko said at a news conference.

The government budget anticipates an average exchange rate of 4 hryvna to the dollar this year, a decline of 15 percent from the cur-

the hryvna to fall below 3.50 to the dollar. The new trading limits will be in effect until the end of the year. the government said.

The hrvvna was close to the limit of its former range Monday, at 3.427 to the dollar. The chairman of the Ukraine Na-

help from the International Monetary Fund and other financial organizations. We are expecting to receive \$150 million from the World Bank

tional Bank, Viktor Yushenko, said

Ukraine was pinning its hopes on

and \$157 million from the IMF in the first quaner." he said.

Because of what it considered the plodding pace of reforms efforts by Ukraine, the IMF has suspended the release of installments of a \$2.2 bil-lion loan granted last September. Deprired of external help, the

government has tried to prop up the currency by imposing exchange (Bloomberg, AFP)

Ukraine, which is trying to per-The central bank's last stated considering legal action against the

policy was that it would not allow government

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■ Cold Shoulder on Bonds

suade domestic holders of its Treasury debi to accept its restructuring terms, has won approval of only eight of the 120 banks involved, Bloomberg News reported from Kiev. Some banks said they were

Very briefly:

 UBS AG will not succeed in selling 25 Swiss branches to a single buyer, a condition for approval of the already completed UBS merger with Swiss Bank Curp., the Swiss Competition Commission said. But it said small and nudstred domestic banks had shown interest in buying some of the branches.

• The International Energy Agency cut us forecast for 1960 daily world oil demand by 0.3 nullion banels, to 74.7 million barrels, and said daily output by OPEC members rose to 27 62 million barrels in January from 27,37 million in December Holders of 3.76 million Russian bunds issued from 1822 to 1917 presented them for reimbursement under a 1996 Paris-Moscow accord, the French Finance Ministry reported

 France Telecom is raising its fixed-line subscription charge next month by 15 percent, to 78 francs (\$13,40), but cutting international rates by 10 percent and domestic long-distance charges by 12 percent. . MobilCom AG's 1998 net profit soured 771 percent, to

250.5 million Deutsche marks (\$144.4 million), as the German long-distance phone company grabbed 10 percent of the market to increase sales by 550 percent, to 1.47 billion DM Abbot Group PLC and ProSafe ASA ended talks on a merger, a month after the British oil-services concern said it

 Reuters Group PLC's pretay profit fell 7.3 percent in 1998. to £580 million (\$947 million), amid continued weak Asian demand, Sales rose 5 percent, to £3.03 hillion, but the news company predicted lower revenue this year.

would combine with the Norwegian company.

governor of the Swedish Riksbank, Urban Backstrom, to a threeyear term as chairman and president. AFP Blownberg Realers

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fourth and the Grand Duchy of Lux-BRUSSELS - Central London is embourg fifth.

Central London Is Richest

the European Union's richest region. according to EU data released Tuesday, and Greece's Epirus, bordering Albania, is the poorest. On a national level, the report

from the EU's statistics office, Eurostat, confirmed Luxembourg Denmark and Austria as the EU's three wealthiest nations on a percapita basis and Spain, Portugal and Greece as the least affluent.

Central London, with more than double the average EU income, edged out two German regions. Hamburg and Darmstadt, for the top regional ranking. Brussels was

Aside from Epirus in Greece, the poorest regions were the Portuguese

Atlantic Ocean archipelagos of Madeira and the Azores, Greece's northern Aegean islands and Extremadura in western Spain. The Central London region has a

purchasing power per person of 38,529 euros t\$43,330 t, compared with the EU average of 17,377 euros. The purchasing power in Epirus was listed as just 7.538 euros. The EU is debating a develop-

ment-aid program for poorer regions that is expecied to total about 275 billion euros from 2000 to 2006.

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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1999 PAGE 15 NASDAO Tuesday's 4 P.M.
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James STATE OF THE PARTY **AMEX** Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close Solve 10gh Law Lotus Chips The 150 most traded stocks of the day, 李子孝子子 字 · 女子名 二字 · 李子 安子子子子子 up to the closing on Wall Street, Soles High Low Lovet Corps 「本有な」なる年代本の成功「大水本」本本は「次」を持た 一年 1 1 1年本 1年本本本本本本本本本本 1年本本本本 THE RESERVE THE PROPERTY OF TH ·安安京了李子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子子 李本本的大年本本本本本人本人本本本本 BerCare
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Very briefly:

- * Nissan Motor Co. plans to hire just over 150 new graduates in April 2000, down sharply from the 1,197 new graduates due to join the company in April of this year. It will hire a total of 130 university and technical-college graduates as engineers in 2000, down from the 278 recruited to start this April.
- Standard & Poor's Corp. lowered its ratings on nine companies, including NEC Corp., Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Japan Airlines Co., Komatsu Ltd., Mitsubishi Electric Corp. and Mitsubishi Estate Co., citing concern that Asian economic turmoil is taking a toll on trading
- · Salomon Smith Barney Inc. filed a federal lawsuit in New York against Ssangyong Business Group seeking \$8.1 million it says it did not receive for work the investment firm did on the sale of three of Ssangyong's units.
- Three senior executives of Guangnan (Holdings) Ltd., a financially troubled China-backed firm based in Hong Kong, resigned after the discovery of accounting irregularities.
- M Asahi Glass Co., Japan's largest glassmaker, will eliminate 900 jobs, or 11 percent of its total, by March 2000 to reduce
- * Vietnam hopes to sell stakes in 500 state-owned enterprises this year as part of efforts to streamline the sector and (\$15.8 billion) through 2000 to help oversupply, we decided to close an lower than the amount it will acquickening the process of "equitization," Hanoi's term for recapitalize banks and stimulate the old and uncompetitive ethylene tually spend this year. privatization of state firms.

Malaysia Wins Cheers On Tax Plan

Compiled by Our Staff From Deputcher

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia's central bank made several clarifications to the exit tax it imposed less than a week ago, and stock-brokers and analysts said Tuesday the changes were generally favorable to foreign investors.

The changes effectively make tax-free the profits on foreign funds that are brought into the country before next Monday.

The stance of these changes is obviously toward making this structure more investor-friendly," said Patrick Tan, an assistant director at ABN-AMRO Asia Equity Research in Kuala Lumpur.

Under rules announced last week, investors who brought money into the country before next week would bave had to pay a 10 percent tax if they repatriated their profit after one year, while those who removed their money within a year would not have

been taxed on profit.

Malaysia's key stock index fell
8.9 percent in the two days after Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin announced the exit tax Thursday. On foreign investments made after next Monday, the rate of the exit tax will depend on the time the funds were in the country, with profit withdrawn in less than 12 months to be taxed at a higher rate.

The composite index rose 22.04 points, or 4.2 percent, on Tuesday, a day after Mr. Daim said the gov-ernment would "spare no effort" in making the rules conducive to outside investment. Also on Tuesday, the central bank, Bank Negara, cla-rified the determination of the exit-tax rate. It said that after next Monday, the start of the 12-month period for determining wbether profits are taxed at 30 percent or 10 percent would be the date of investment, not demand for its products amid Jathe date the profit was realized.

Malaysia has estimated that it needs as much as 60 billion ringgit

China's Cutback Surprises Boeing and Airbus

By Seth Faison New York Tunes Service

SHANGHAI - China's decision to ask suppliers of commercial aircraft to delay deliveries to the nation's airlines is a blow to Boeing Co. and Airbus Industrie, the world's leading aircraft makers.

After years of breakneck growth that could barely keep up with surging demand, China's airlines are suffering from serious overcapacity. Fare wars and half-empty flights, unknown in China until recently, are now common headaches for China's two dozen airline companies.

As a result, China's official media reported Monday, the authorities are taking several steps to limit growth in airline capacity. With 43 new commercial aircraft scheduled to be delivered this year, about 40 older planes will be sold, leased or taken out of service.

An unspecified number of aircraft scheduled to be delivered in 2000 and 2001 will be or European leaders. Of the orders for 57 airdelayed, Wang Zhi, a senior official at the Civil craft that Boeing received from China in the Airlines will try to sell or lease some of their Aviation Administration of China, told the past two years, 27 were formally ordered during aircraft, Mr. Wang said. They will also rearrange China Daily newspaper. Althnugh Mr. Wang. President Bill Clinton's visit to Beijing last air routes to try to improve passenger loads.

eagerly compete for business in China, seemed

Dong Yuguo, a spokesman for Airbus China, scaled back. referred to the report as he said, "You could say we're very curious.

Iust two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, Boeing projected that nounced in January matchina to the last two years ago, and the la omy is gradually slowing, and the deeply uncertain economic outlook that hangs over Asia makes it impossible to project aviation growth accurately.

Aviation executives often complain that their business, with such enormous price tags on each aircraft, is particularly vulnerable to shifting politics, domestic and international.

For instance, large orders for aircraft are often timed to coincide with visits by American

did not say so explicitly, it seems unlikely that any new orders will be made this year.

From the at Position at Position and the seems unlikely that officials wrestling with overcapacity in today's officials wrestling with overcapacity in today's Executives at Boeing and Airbus, which airline market are balking at all the orders aiready made for new aircraft. Planned exsurprised, even skeptical of the announcement. pansions at Chinese airports are also being

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Section 4

Liu Jianfeng, director of the General Administration of Civil Aviation of China, an-

about \$1.5 billion. China's aviation traffic grew more than 30 percent in 1994 and 1995. In 1996, the growth rate slowed to 12 percent, then to 7.5 percent in 1997 and to 6.3 percent last year, Mr. Wang

said. Yet capacity grew faster than that, creating an oversupply of passenger sears. The 43 passenger aircraft scheduled for de-livery this year include 15 Boeing 737s, 3 Boeing 757s, 19 Airbus 320s, a Boeing 747 and 2 Boeing 777s, China Daily reported.

Airlines will try to sell or lease some of their

Mitsubishi Chemical to Close 6 Sites

TOKYO — Mitsubishi Chemical Corp., Japan's largest chemical com-

The company said it would susend production at three chemical plants, two coke plants and one computer hard-disk plant starting as early as next month

Mitsubishi Chemical, which employs 11,000 people, said it planned to cut 2,000 jobs by March 2001 by

Asset Management Co.
Other restructuring n hiring fewer graduates, encouraging workers to affiliates.

The company said the actions were necessary because of falling pan's worst recession since World War II.

"Because ethylene has been in

pan, a Mitsubishi Chemical exec- duce the company's operational utive said.

pany, said Tuesday it would close six plant and consolidate the operation factories and cut its work force by 18 at two other plants, it said. Ethylene in the year that ended last March.

The company, whose primary is a petrochemical product used in plastics and other downstream in-

Tsuzuki, a fund manager at Sanwa

Other restructuring measures in-

development. The company said it would cut such spending to 54 billion yen (\$471.5 million) in the year starting April I, a reduction of 10 billion yen

from its initial budget for the current

financial year and 6 billion yen

costs by 40 billion yen annually, an Mitsubishi will close the ethylene amount equal to about 10 percent of

plastics and other downstream industries.

'The main focus of the restructuring efforts is closing the ethylene and polyethylene, plans to plant in Yokkaichi, 'said Nobuyuki system to support such a corporate year's loss of 3.88 trillion won, the structure.

Some analysts said the moves did not go far enough. "The company has no focus," said Nicholas Smith. an analyst at Jardine Fleming Securities Japan. "They need choose a core business and stick with it, as well as cut capacity and

fire people. Mitsnbishi Chemical's shares fell yen to 256.

The company was formed in 1994 when Mitsnbishi Petrochemical merged with Mitsubishi Kassei. which specialized in producing refined chemical products.

South Korea Banks Post Record Losses

Aconce France-Presse

SEOUL — South Korean banks lost a record 14.48 trillion won (\$1.2 billion) last year as regulators heightened scrutiny of their oper-

commission said.

'It was a record net loss,' a commission official said, adding that only three of the country's 22 institutions --- Hana, KorAm and Shinhan banks

 posted profits last year. The steep increase in losses reflected stricter regulations on provisions for bad loans, an increasing number of corporate failures and a

rise in reserves for retirement pay. Net losses at five major banks -. Seoulbank, Cho Hung, Hanvit, Korea First and Korea Exchange banks - accounted for 76 percent of the

Reuters, AFX, AFP economy. (Bloomberg, Reuters) plant" in Yokkaichi in western Ja-The actions are expected to re-**Advertisement** For information please contact, Katy Houri: Fax (33-1) 41 43 92 12 or e-mail: funds@int.com February 9, 1999 INTERNATIONAL FUNDS To receive Iree daily quotations for your funds subscribe at; e-funds@firt.com http://www.sht.com/tHT/FUN/funds.html 6.544 15.296 15,296 AND LOAD THE CHART OF THE CHART 939 49 1004.13 A FAIRPIELD GREEN
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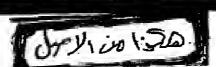
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INTERNATIONAL INVESTING

A Cyberspace Baron With No Bubble' Fears

By Geanne Rosenberg New York Times Service

NEW YORK - As investment pundits warn about an Internet bubble and Bill Gates of Microsoft Corp. wonders where the mania for the virtual table.

Alamo rental-car company and still in college. selling it to Republic Industries Inc.

looked for promising businesses. space. "I started doing a lot of busi- to buy into their venture. ness electronically with the airline reservation systems and the Inter- Edward Cespedes, a Dancing Bear out." net," he said. "It was quite apparent economic revolucion of the world office until the negotiation was

people in charge. "They had to have a high, high work ethic," be said. The payoff came Nov. 13. In its five children and three grandchil-first day of trading, the stock of dren.
"They had to be able to suffer a Theglobe.com rocketed 606 per-But his fears after selling Alamo blow

Mr. Egan, an alumnus of Cornell University, mentioned to the uoiversity's president one day that he if there ever was one," Mr. Egan Internet stocks will end, Michael was looking for a "media play on said. His stake of about 6 million Egan is quietly keeping his chips on the Net." Perbaps, he was told, he shares is oow worth \$382 million. should check out a company called Mr. Egan, 58, knows something Theglobe.com that a couple of rea fortune by turning around the Stephan Paternot, had started while

Theglobe.com calls itself an Inin 1997 for \$625 million, getting ternet "community" that offers its profit. Even for this low-tech ven- with his snowy white hair, black about \$587 million for his stake. users enterrainment, information ture, his enthusiasm was boundless. Then he started an investment com- and shopping opportunities. Mr. pany. Dancing Bear Investments, and Egan liked the concept and flew to Ithaca, New York, to have lunch About that time, he said, he was with the two men. After five hours company would be a \$200 millioo becoming infamated with cyber- of talks, he made it clear he wanted

In February 1997, he dispatched executive, for follow-up talks. "Ed since maybe the printing press or done, 'said Mr. Krizelman, now 25, sion in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for one year older than his partner. 'He temporary shelter while he recovhad 'dot-com' in its name. He was Chinese food with us.' Six months looking for a startup nobody else later, Egan paid \$20 million for a 51 had heard of and true grit in the percent stake in the company.

cent, from \$9 to \$63.50, the biggest — that he would "dry up and blow first-day run-up of any initial public away" — proved groundless. offering. "It was an adrenaline day

investments, notably a controlling be jumped at the chance to run an old about building companies. He made ceot graduates, Todd Krizelman and stake in Nantucket Nectars, a Mas-friend's family business. sachusetts-based juice maker, that

> recalled a conversation on a private dismissed fears about an Internet jet: "He starts talking about bow the stock hubble. company within five years, while of capital is pouring into the InI'm concerned that on our one van in ternet," be said: "Fifty million or Michael Egan's big media play Boston, the shocks were blown

Mr. Egan has used some of his squire, building a \$12 million man-

As a young man, Mr. Egan at first pursued a career in tourism. But a bumbling" job in food service, followed by a low-paying stint in Mr. Egan has made other smart academia, cooled that ambinoo, and

Sitting in the cluttered office of be sold last year to Ocean Spray Theglobe.com recently, he looked Cranberries Inc. for an undisclosed more like an artist than an investor rre, his enthusiasm was boundless. pullover sweater and black trousers. Tom First, one of the founders. But he talked like an investor as he

> There's a very good reason a lot with 3 billion users."

that it was going to be the major was told that he couldn't leave the wealth to lead the life of a country bought and sold Autoby Internet Inc. travel company.

diamond for a family that includes acquisition, the expected purchase of 1'm trying to recapture my youth."



100 million databases being joined was bankrolling Theglobe.com.

In other recent deals, Mr. Egan Azazz.com, an Internet retailer.

Ought and sold AutobyInternet Inc. What drives Mr. Egan? He says he and bought a majority stake in In- wants to help young entrepreneurs sion in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for teletravel, a privately beld Internet make their way. The other day, be said, he had breakfast with the two But Mr. Egan was not about to lived on our couches in the office ated his main spread nearby, and invest in a company just because it and shared meal after meal of assembling a Nantucket vacation startup, Certified Vacadons, a travel in their 30s. "You see the enthanged of the country of th compound of 15 houses, a dining company, at the end of this year. And siasm for life in their eyes and bear it hall, a movie house and a baseball Theglobe.com has announced its first in their voices," he said. "Maybe

Monitor Day Trading, **NASD Urges Brokers**

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The head of Wall Street's self-policing group has asked brokerage firms to report any problems

arising from day trading.

Frank Zarb, the chairman and chief executive of the National Association of Securities Dealers, which operates the Nasdao Stock Market, said in a letter to Association members that "investors must be made to understand what they are getting into."

Mr. Zarb noted the "sometimes frenetic" electronic stock trading of recent weeks and the rising ournber of amateur day traders - who be said "may not be able to absorb the risk"

when they are extended credit to trade. Unless trading firms respond appropriately, Mr. Zarb warned, "we increase investor risk, with some losing savings that they cannot afford to lose."

Day trading has attracted a small but growing breed of investors - estimated to number a few thousand nationwide - many of whom have abandoned their regular jobs for the prospect of quick riches. Day traders seek stocks solely for sharp price swings, buying and selling them quickly to capitalize on the short-term movement in price.

But securities regulators have expressed concern that some day-trading companies, which sell training courses and spe-cialized software and provide computer work space to investors. could be misleading them about potential profits and causing them to get in over their heads. State regulators have stepped up

their scrutiny of day-trading firms and a handful, particularly in Massachusetts, have filed fraud charges against them. The Electronic Traders Association, which represents daytrading companies, said last week it was concerned that people could be getting involved without "a clear understanding of the effort required to become successful and the potential risks."

Suddenly, Analysts Decide U.S. Earnings Won't Be So Bad

By Richard A. Oppel Jr. New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Now that U.S. markets panic did not pan out. Indeed, it suddenly seems that many navsaving forecasters are painting a far brighter earnings landscape for

At Merrill Lynch & Co., economists recently raised their forecast for earnings growth of the compaoies in the Standard & Poor's 500stock index to 3.5 perceot in 1999, in contrast to a prediction made in mid-timate for earnings growth is 4.1

The change resulted from "con-

Stanley Dean Witter & Co. "The economy has a lot of momentum, and I'm optimistic earnings are going to exceed expectations."

Among strategists, the average es-

tinued strength in the economy and dustries in the index, the engines

re stabilizing in 1999. in August, the General Motors Corp.

That is good news for investors, strike and a steep drop in oil earn-ducing an array of new drugs.

Still, strategists say several sectors. see stabilizing in 1999. The company is far from alone in its optimism. "I'm very bullish on corporate earnings." said Byron Wien. U.S. strategist at Morgan with the stock market at record levels and valuations. In the wien, u.s. strategist at Morgan absence of lower interest rates, betlyst for more market gains.

vear's third quarter - the first time met aggressive financial and proin seven years that profits of Amer- duction targets. And many analysts ability is," said Chuck Hill, director Meritage Advisors LLC, aimed at wealthy investors. December of a 5 percent drop — a percent for companies in the S&P ican corporations bad fallen — have do not think oil prices can fall much of research at First Call in Boston.

swing of 8.5 percentage points in less than two months.

500, compared with 0.2 percent in proven short-lived. Edward Kersch-below their current \$12 level.

1998, according to IBES Internation-ner, a PaineWebber Group strategist

Why are analysts optimistic al, a research company. Among in- who says be expects profit growth of fourth-quarter earnings are mostly less pressure on profit margins, appear most likely to be technology, tends that the poor third quarter resoftware and semiconductors. Health in the books, it is clear that the worst which is the result of continued rehealth care and perhaps energy—a sulted from several coincidental care, meanwhile, is getting help from fears about last summer's emergingmarkets panic did not pan out. Inmarkets panic did not pan out. Insenior economist at Merrill Lynch.

see stabilizing in 1999.

factors, including the market plunge cootinued good results at pharmain August, the General Motors Corp. ceutical companies, which have pro-

Why are analysts optimistic?

who says be expects profit growth of 5 percent to 8 percent in 1999, coostrong sales of personal computers, sulted from several coincidental care, meanwhile, is getting help from

could disappoint this year, partic-ularly two that can suffer in periods ter profits are probably the best cata-lyst for more market gains.

company has: already stunned in-dustry analysts by suggesting last commodity companies and capital-Some strategists suggest that the month that its earnings could top equipment suppliers such as Case factors that hurt earnings in last \$10 a share in 1999 if the company Corp. Deere & Co. and Caterpillar Corp., Deere & Co. and Caterpillar Inc. 'That's where the real vulner-

Very briefly:

• The heavy metal band Iron Maiden became the latest musical act to hit Wall Street with the closing this week of a \$30 million bond offering backed by future royalties from hits such as "Bring Your Daughter to the Slaughter."

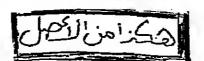
• India's passion for software stocks is running so wild that some speculators are said to have snapped up shares in an underwear manufacturer named Softwear.

· A series of corporate financial fiascoes has drawn the attention of U.S. stock-market regulators, who have issued proposals to companies to increase the power and independence of their audit committees.

• Birkert & Fleckenstein AG, a German brokerage specializing in derivatives, plans to sell 312,400 shares next mooth for funds to invest in its on-line services.

· Michael Lind and Christina Richardson, who managed about \$150 million in assets for the family of the Borders Group Inc. co-founder Louis Borders, have set up a firm,

Reuters, AP, Bluomberg



Dutch Crown Prince Puts IOC on Hold

OLYMPICS Crown Prince Willem Alexander of the Netherlands has suspended his involvement with the International Olympic Committee.

Wirn Kok, the Dutch prime minister, said Tuesday that Willem Alexander would suspend his IOC activities at least until the IOC considers corruption allegations. The IOC is to meet March 17 and 18 to discuss the allegations. None of the allegations involve the prince, who was elected to the committee during the Winter Olympics last year. He was due to take up his post in

Dominicans Win Series

BASEBALL David Ortiz, a Minnesota Twins rookie, hit a two-run double in the bottom of the 12th inning Monday as the Dominican Republic beat Puerto Rico in a one-game playoff to win its third straight Caribbean Series championship. Wil Cordero hit a tying home run in the ninth for Puerto Rico, and teammate Ferdinand Rodriguez homered in the top of the 12th for a 5-4 lead. (AP)

NBA Fines Rude Barkley

BASKETBALL Charles Barkley. the Houston forward, was fined \$5,000, and Steve Smith of Atlanta and Kendall Gill of New Jersey were fined \$2,500 each by the

Barkley was fined Monday for "directing obscene language to-ward fans" as the Rockets' lost to the Lakers on Friday.

Smith and Gill were fined for fighting after the Hawks beat the Nets on Saturday.

Falcons Receiver Charged

FOOTBALL Eight days after playing in the Super Bowl, Tony Martin, an Atlanta Falcons receiver, was charged in federal court in Miami on Monday with money-laundering and conspiracy stemming from his friendship with Rickey Brownlee, a convicted drug dealer. Martin, 33, is not accused of involvement in Brownlee's drug business. Prosecutors said Martin wrote checks to lease luxury cars and pay legal fees for Brownlee because his lawyers

Gilding the Rugby Lily

RUGBY UNION South African Rughy authorities denied Tuesday that they had succumbed to political pressure after all four of its tition picked three nonwhites in their squads. Last year, the teams picked only two nonwhite players etween them for the Southern Hemisphere tournament.

The governing African National Congress has denounced the "lily white" makeup of rughy, and talked of introducing racial quotas in team selection.

Rian Oberholzer, South African rugby's chief executive, said he met with the provincial squad coaches and requested, but did not demand, that they include at least three nonwhite players. (Reuters)

Ski Event Frozen Out

BIATHLON It is so cold in Finland that even winter sports have been canceled. The cold spell gripping Finland prevented the start of the world biathlon championships in Kontiolahii for the fourth successive day on Tuesday. In the morning, the temperature was at minus 36 centigrade (minus 33 Fahrenheit) and minus 26 (minus 15) on the shooting range. The competition limit is set at minus 20 (minus (AP, Reuters)

26 Kills, slangth

32 Money guru

as Of the ear

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37 Theme of this

(1955 film)

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46 "Bards of

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ACROSS

1 Fast runners

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TENNIS IN THE DESERT — Tim Henman of Britain returning a ball from Wayne Black of Zimbabwe on Tuesday in their first-round match at the Dubai Open Tennis Tournament. Henman won, 6-0, 6-4. In other first-round action, Thomas Muster beat Stephane Huet, 6-4, 6-2; Francisco Clavet downed Wayne Ferreira, a former Dubai champion, 3-6, 6-2, 7-6 (13-11), and Nicholas Kiefer beat Nicholas Escude, 6-3, 6-2.

Competing Masters Tug Soccer Players

Vantage Point/Rob Hughes

is fleeting, players are torn between two masters. Make that There is the call a country has on its finest. There is the demand that clubs,

which pay over a few peak seasons the wealth that must ease these performers family men.

The pressure is on. Frank Rijkaard, the mercenaries? Dutch coach, offers no soft option. Anywar between club and country because not many moons ago be was paid mil-

Player-turned-coach bears no forgive- at Camp Nou. ness. Preparing the Dutch for the Euroority, and he will not tolerate countrymen ponent in Real Madrid white on Sunday, who do not share that goal. He knows, Heaven help him or spare the insinuindeed a ninth player, Clarence Seedorf, the big game at Camp Nou. who belongs to Real Madrid - have a massive duty on Sunday when Barcelona meets Real Madrid at Camp Nou.

That, indeed, is a quasi-international contest of its own, Barcelona is Cataquest for supremacy is exaggerated by the fact that this is Barca's centenary. Nothing is more important to the Catalan third be than the team beating Madrid and then Princes. bringing bome the championship.

The atmosphere around Camp Nou is febrile. They don't approve of Louis van Gaal, the Datch trainer, bringing in so many Dutch players to the exclusion of Catalans or even Spaniards. The polls showed before Christmas that 95 per cent of Barcelona's 120,000-plus club members wanted van Gaal out. The white handkerchiefs waived unmercifully, and still flutter even though Barcelona has

won its last seven league games. Forget van Gaal, say the fans, the team is winning because Josep Guardiola, the one individual whom Catalans can really call their own, is back. He was a ball boy at Camp Nou 13 years ago, he has battled through 320 days of injury, and now he is not only the catalyst but effectively the coach on the field.

CROSSWORD

24 Singer k.d. 25 Pitch suddenly

26 Gen. Bradley

29 Basketballs, but

not footballs

30 Had a sensation

31 Dog botherer

33 Car with a bar

34 Gray's subj.

38 Without a sour

39 Hade-and-seek

40 Miller, for one

46 Just for the thrill

hideout

45 Ho's his

47 Stay in the

49 Something to

leave money in?

32 P.D.O.

35 Match

note

#8 Gang woes

Fact or fantasy, the match Sunday is pivotal to the season. Barcelona leads And now France is attempted and the season. the league by three points, but Real Madrid is in the pack bearing down on it. wealth that must ease these performers Madrid can keep its UEFA Champions through middle to old age. There is the League and World Club Cup silverware need, sometimes, for players also to be but must not be allowed to stop Barcelona from winning the league this

One match at a time is the cliche. Even one he picks must give his all, even in a that is compromised. When the Barfriendly international, or he will not be celona Dutchmen play against Portugal. chosen again. Rijkaard knows the tug of they will have to stop Luis Figo. He is a mainspring of Portuguese hopes and a Barcelona bero. Goalkeeper Vitor Baia lions by AC Milan and at the same time is a veteran Portoguese stalwart and rewas crucial to the Dutch national team.

It gets more complicated. Seedorf is a spondent for The Times of London pean Championship of 2000 is his pri- Dutchman on Wednesday, and an opeven if he chooses to ignore, that eight ations should Seedorf collide with Figo, ings against Atletico Madrid on Tuesday committee and the Salt Lake City com-Barcelona employees in his squad - resulting in the Portugal star's missing

uriouser and curiouser is the encounter on Wednesday. It is a Portuguese "home" match, hut, rather than the Stadium of Light or any lonia, Madrid is Spain, and the annual of the big stadiums in Portugal, the Portuguese soccer authorities chose to play this prestige match against the world's third best team in Paris — at Parc des

Why? Because there are reputedly 1 million Portuguese living in or around the French capital, and the Portuguese soccer

body likes to reward its overseas fans. Nevertheless, Wednesday in Paris is a strange time and place for the meeting. ships and is sacrificing an opportunity to show how it stages hig events. Not just because the Dutch and a few of the Portuguese players have Sunday on their minds. But because Wednesday is also the date on which Les Bleus, the French World Cup winners, play a significant match of their own - against England. Soccer has never meant as much to the French as it does now. The squad has remained unbeaten since that fantastic night in July when it trounced Brazil in

first, to win where it has never won, against the English at Wembley Stadium. England, too, will be highly mo-tivated because one week ago its coach, Glenn Hoddle, became the 23d of 32 disposable cameras before the 1991 dium. England, too, will be highly mo-tivated because one week ago its coach, World Cup managers from last summer

Patrick Vieira, who guard the defense tenaciously from midfield. They, and mittee, Beth Wilkinson, said no eviswiftattacker Nicolas Anelka, are among the French legion playing in London.

So at Parc des Princes, and at Wembley, club and country divide teammates for a night of intruiging, possibly confusing sports.

Rob Hughes is chief sports corre-

■ Atletico Madrid Faces Penalty

Madrid city officials started proceed after fans brandished flags with the Nazi swastika on the terraces of the club's Vicente Calderon stadium, Agence France-Presse reported from Madrid.

The Spanish press published photos earlier this month of Atletico supporters waving flags and scarves with the Nazi swastika and the iron cross.

Under Spanish law, clubs face fines of up to \$339,000 for allowing supporters into club grounds with any item that could be seen to "incite violence, racism and xenophobia.

SCOREBOARD

2 Ex-Officials Blamed In Salt Lake Report

Olympics Panel Identifies Hidden Payments

two officials of Salt Lake City's

The report concentrated on the actions of Tom Welch, who directed the successful hid for the 2002 Winter Olympics, and Dave Johnson, his top

The report also identified Craig Peterson as a central player. Peterson handled finances for the hid committee after be joined in 1990 and continued in that joh after the city won its bid and formed the Salt Lake Organizing Com-

Johnson, who had become senior vice president of the organizing committee, resigned under pressure last month. At the same time, the committee stripped Welch of the \$500,000 pension and \$10,000-a-month consulting contract be was given when he resigned as president in mid-1997 amid a spousal abuse

charge.
The report, more than 300 pages long, primarily targeted Welch and Johnson, accusing them of hidden payments and deceptive practices that kept other members of the committee from knowing what was going on. Weleb and Johnson have denied wrongdoing.

Peterson has refused to discuss his

role in the hid committee, in part because be signed a contract that demanded his silence about Olympic matters when be left the committee in 1996.

e final of the World Cup.

And now France is attempting another

The report Tuesday quoted witnesses as saying that Nagano, Japan, had beaten Salt Lake for the 1998 Games with a "more sophisticated and extravagant"

ceiona from winning the league this Put yourselves into the uniforms of the de Boer twins and half a dozen other Dutch players. On Wednesday they play in the orange shirts of their borneland, On Sunday, because those same individuals form a colony within the Barcelona to their horneland on team, they change to red and blue.

The pressure is on, Frank Rijkaard, the ceiona from winning the league this world Cup managers from last summer who no longer has the job. England's new coach, Howard Wilkinson, has new coach, Howard W

A lawyer for the Salt Lake City comdence of criminal conduct was found. "This is an ethical dilemma," she said, "and we did find several instances in which individuals stepped over the

The ethics panel found that Jean Claude Ganga, the IOC member from Republic of Congo who has been suspended by the IOC, and members of his medical care, travel and lodging and cessive spending other gifts and expenses from the bid. The New York mittee.

ganizing Committee, said Johnson and Finnish member of the IOC. The letters Welch made unauthorized payments to were sent in 1993. International Olympic Committee mem-bers and their relatives and made a conthe bid committee's board.

of the plan was Mr. Welch and Mr. olations of state laws.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The top bers."

Johnson's direct payments to IOC members."

the excesses of Welch and Johnson.

"We know what happened here wasn't right, and we are setting it right,"
Umh's governor, Mike Leavitt, said just before the report was released.
"Olympic corruption did not start here," he said, "but it must end here."

Earlier, Leaviti said the report by the committee's ethics panel should not be looked at as complete, since the panel did not have subpoena powers and some people refused to be interviewed. The board spent much of its time examining documents

The ethics panel probe is one of five investigations into the payments of cash and freebies to IOC members.

Unlike the IOC commission report last month, which focused on international committee members, the report by the Salt Lake City panel concerned the role that Utah Olympic boosters played in seeking the 2002 Winter Games.

The IOC investigation said \$800,000 in cash payments, scholarships, medical care and travel expenses was paid to 14 IOC members. So far, nine have been expelled or have resigned.

In Japan, meanwhile, officials said Tuesday that found no wrongdoing in Nagano's winning bid for the 1998 Winter Games.

Nagano's governor, Goro Yoshimura, told Kyodo News service that the investigation showed that the bidders' treatment of IOC members was "within the scope of common sense." Welch last week said that Leaviti and

others knew what was going on. But Leavitt and the others have denied knowledge of details of the gift plan.

duty as the governor."

He said he did not know that the

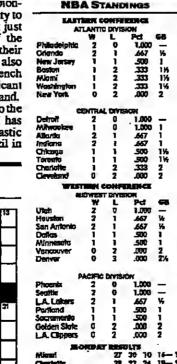
international students he met were sons and daughters of IOC members, some supported by hid money. Frank Joklik, the volunteer chairman

of the hid committee who later became president of the organizing committee and resigned on Jan. 8, said be and other business leaders on the bid board had been screened from the details and that family received more than \$250,000 in he was dismayed to learn about the ex-

week that it obtained copies of letters written hy Joklik and another hid com-In summarizing the report, Robert mittee member, James Beardall, seeking Graff, chairman of the Salt Lake Or- a forestry joh for the busband of a

Besides the investigations by the Salt Lake ethics panel, the IOC and the U.S. certed effort to cover their actions from Olympic Committee, the Justice Department is looking into violations of federal Nobody disputed that the mission of law, and Utah's attorney general, Jan the hid committee was to secure IOC Graham — who also was on the bid votes, Garff said, but "what was not part committee - is examining potential vi-

BASKETBALL Not just because Portugai is a candidate to host the 2004 European Champion-NBA STANDINGS



Chartette
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11), Voncouver 55 (Massenburg 9),
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16 28 7 39 128 155 WOMEN TOP 25 No. 18 Virginis (16-6) def. Maryland 69-55. No. 26 LSU (17-5) def. Teass-Pan Am. 87-35.

27 39 10 16-71 28 22 24 19-14 THE AP WOMEN'S TOP 25 1,049

21-167 1, Tennessee (41) St. Loots 2 8 2–5
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Period; E-Weight 1 (Smyth), 3d Period;
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9—26. Godins: E-Essenso. C-Bratinwalle. 115

TENNIS **WTA RANKINGS**

WTA RADROMOS

1. Martina Hingls, Swifterland, 5,722 points

2. Lindsoy (Invenport, U.S., 5,547

3. Jana Novotna, Crech Republic, 3,972

4. Monica Seles, U.S., 3,827

5. Aranton Sanchez Victrio, Spain, 3,067

6. Venus Williams, U.S., 3,014

7. Steffi Graf, Germany, 2,743

8. Mary Pierce, Franca, 2,582

9. Pathy Schwyder, Swifterland, 2,310

10. Natholie Touzich, France, 2,239

11. Itaminique Van Roost, Bolghum, 2,196

12. Arana Kournikava, Russia, 2,051

13. Arana Kournikava, Russia, 2,051

13. Arana Kournikava, Russia, 2,051 3. Amonda Coetzer, South Africa, 1,988 4. Irina Spiriea, Ro

SOCCER ENGLISH PREMIUM LEAGUE

TRANSITIONS

AMERICAN LEAGUE TAMPA BAY—Agreed to terms with OF Duinton McCrocken on 1-year contract.
TEXAS—Agraed to forms with RHP Ac

major league scout and Marty Lamb as Ohio Valley scout. PHILADELPHIA-Agreed to terms with 28

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASS NBA--Fined Houston F Charles Barl for directing obscene language of fans in Feb. 6 game. Fined Atlanta G Steve Smith and New Jersey G Kendall GE 2,500 each of

W L T Plx GF GA 30 10 5 68 141 99 27 13 10 64 133 103 20 22 9 49 130 125 17 22 12 46 113 120 19 28 4 42 122 137

MONDAY RESULTS

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE BALTIMORE—Named Jim Colletto diffensive line coach, Rex Ryan defensive line coach

BOCKS CORGS.

CLEVELAND—Nomed Tim Jurgenson strength cooch and Ray Perkins Hight ends cooch.

GREEN BAY—Signed WR Bit Schroeder to 3-year contract. Named Mike McCorthy quarrbocks coach. M.Y. GIANTS—Terminated the contract of LB

Ron Zook, special teams coach, to become
Konsos City secondary coach.
SAN DIROD—Signed CE Torey Hunter, Signed
Tree-opent OL Chris Mins to 2-year contract. MOCKEY
MATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
Suspended Program RW Jim Commins

GREENSKEEPERS Encre Pet Tse NEE REEF PEGLEG EVENED LESE WERNERKLEMPERER

Solution to Puzzle of Feb. 9

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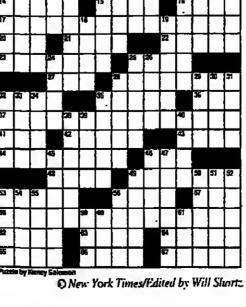
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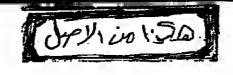
50 Razz 51 'Generation of Vipers" author 52 Star's statuette 53 Israel's Abba 64 Combustible 11 Doily — of "Hello, Dolly!" 66 Leave be

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SPORTS

Hill Piles Up 46 Points As Pistons Make It 3-0

Bryant is playing like the league's next -for a 104-103 lead. superstar. Bryant isn't alone, though, and his chief rival, Grant Hill, put up a the Pistons. He and Hill were the only Jordanesque point lotal Monday night while also keeping the Detroit Pistons

Lakers 80, Spurs 75 In San Antonio.

Hill scored a career-high 46 points, including two crucial free throws after a

NBA ROUNDUP

highly charitable foul call, as the Pistons improved to 3-0 by beating the Washington Wizards, 106-103.

Bryant had 19 points and 10 rebounds

for the Los Angeles Lakers as they beat the San Antonio Spurs, 80-75. Hill also had seven assists, seven re-

bounds, two steals and two blocked shots, including a rejection of Tim Legler from behind the three-point line on the game's final play. But the game turned on two free throws hy Hill after a questionable foul

call on Juwan Howard with 13 seconds A lay-up by Rod Strickland gave Washington a 103-102 lead with 14 seconds left. On the Pistons' next possession, Hill fell out of bounds, and

Howard was called for a foul. Howard threw np his hands in disbelief. "I went out there and just tried to at first deny him from catching the ball, like I'd been doing all game." he said.

'He was totally off balance, fell out of bounds, and the foul was called, I felt I played good defense on him."

Television replays seemed to confirm Three games into the season, Kobe Howard's version. Hill sank both shots

Jerry Stackhouse scored 29 points for

Lakers 80, Spurs 75 In San Antonio, Shaquille O'Neal had 26 points and 13 rebounds and helped hold David Robinson to 11 points as Los Angeles handed the Spurs their first loss of the season.

After seeing that San Antonio was picked ahead of the Lakers in some preseason publications, O'Neal voiced his displeasure loward Robinson while also calling Tim Duncan "too light." "I'm known for backing up what I 🤻

say, and you all know I come out to play every night," O'Neal said. "We realized that they were going to come out strong after reading my statement. I do that on purpose to get pumped up."
Rockets 90, Nuggets 80 Scottle Pip-

pen had 24 points and 13 rebounds in his home debut and Charles Barkley continued his fast start for Houston with 15 points and 19 rebounds Houston's threesome of Barkley, Hakeem Olajuwon and Pippen shot a col-lective 74 percent from the field in a

Reid made several key plays in the final 72 seconds, David Wesley had 18 points and 12 assists and Chuck Person and

Bohby Phills had 16 points apiece for the Homets, who came back from a 15point, third-quarter deficit. Miami was without its leading scorer,



Jamal Mashhura, who sat out to rest a scored 28 points, Chris Mullin had 22 deep thigh bruise.

Magic 107, Celtice 90 In Orlando, strongest all-around performance since knee and calf injuries forced him out of

the lineup for 63 games last season. 'That's the best I've seen Penny play in two years," said Chuck Daly, the

Orlando coach. Pacers 95, Cavaliers 89 Reggie Miller Trail Blazers.

second half as Indiana spoiled Cleve-Penny Hardaway had 28 points, eight land's home opener. Miller took cootrol rebounds and six assists in perhaps his of the game after halftime by scoring 10 points in the third and 10 in the fourth. Trail Blazers 95, Grizzlies 76 Arvydas Sabonis scored 10 of his 24 points in a

lonsided third quarter as Portland spoiled Vancouver's home opener. Jim Jackson added 17 points for the

Jail Might Not Keep Tyson From Training

Door Could Open in 60 Days for Daytime 'Job'

By Katherine Shaver Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The heavyweight

fighter Mike Tyson could be hack in training within 60 days -- while serving his fail sentence in Montgomery County. Maryland - and could even ask a judge for permission to leave town lemporarily for a prizefight, a jail official has said. The possibility that Tyson could con-

tinue his fighting career — and perhaps stave off being returned to prison in Indiana at the same time — may have been behind his failure to appeal his oneyear jail senience Monday, said lawyers familiar with his case.

Although it was widely expected that Tyson would file an appeal and a request for bond as soon as the courthouse opened after the weekend, neither was filed. He has 30 days to appeal the senience he received last week for attacking two motorists after a fender bender in Gaithersburg, Maryland, on Aug. 31.

Tyson pleaded no contest to charges he kicked and punched two male motorists, ages 50 and 63, whose car rearended ooc being driven by his wife. His plea meant he neither contested the charges nor admined guilt. An appeal carries the risk that a judge could then decide not to accept the no-contest plea and the two made big threes in the and order a trial by jury.
If found guilty, Tyson would not only

have another conviction on his record, but would again be subject to Maryland sentencing guidelines that call for a jail term of three to seven years.

Lawyers familiar with the case said Tyson's attorneys may be weighing the possibility that he would have a better chance of saving his boxing career by

serving out the Montgomery jail sentence now rather than contesting it.

A District Court official said Tyson's Rockville, Maryland, attorney, Paul Kemp, "started the paperwork" on an appeal by requesting the proper form Monday but never completed it.

In addition to continuing his training. lawyers said, Tyson could use his time in a Montgoniery County detention facility - as little as seven months with good behavior — to show the Indiana judge and the Nevada Athletic Commission that he is being duly punished.

George Walker, Tyson's Indiana pro-

bation officer, said he had not decided what to do about Tyson's probation status. But he suggested that the Maryland sentence would not automatically lead to a probation violation hearing in Indiana. Tyson would have to be returned to Indiana for such a hearing before he could be returned to prison for his 1942 rape conviction there. Walker said.

*Somewhere along the way, we might get everyone together and say, 'Hey, do we really want a hig circus in town to do something with him, or can we do soniething without a hearing and save a lot of taxpayer money?" "Walker said. "There are different ways of working on it."

Tyson's probation in Indiana runs out next month.

If he stays in jail in Maryland, it niight not be much longer before Tyson is back in the ring — at least to train. Officials said that after serving 60 days in the Montgomery County tail, he could be transferred to the county's Pre-Release Center, which he would be required to leave during the day to work.

In Tyson's case, that could mean boxing, said Russ Hamill, acting director of the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation. Like any inmate at the center, which is designed to rehabilitate immates and help them re-enter society. Tyson would be required to work during the day in his chosen profession, Hanull said. "Since boxing is his entployment and

his job, we'd have to verify where he is and that be remained drug- and alcoholfree," Hamill said.

Tyson's workplace, Hamill said, could be a gym. Hamill also said that, with a judge's permission. Tyson might be able to leave the state to fight, just as other inmates can ask to travel for their work. "We're talking about a person who

appears to know only one profession, in his life, and he has a very limited opportunity to practice that trade," said John Kudel, a Maryland lawyer. "I think that has to be considered along with his freedom. There's got to be a very good reason why he has not filed the appeal

NBA Draws Large Audiences For Lockout-Delayed Tip Off

kethall Association appeared to be in trouble when Michael Jordan retired after the season started three months late. But attendance was strong, and a great start for us." ratings actually improved on the sea-

Overnight ratings for the Sunday afternoon doubleheader on NBC, the U.S. television network, were 5.8 — up from the network's first telecast in 1998,

son's first weekend.

which posted a 5.7 rating.
Turner Sports enjoyed similar success with its two games Friday night on TNT, its U.S. cable television station.

Angeles Lakers matchup received a 3.1 for an overall average of 2.8. That was a 65 percent jump from roughly 700 fewer per arena than Turner's average last season.

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"People were predicting some dire results for NBA ratings," said Kevin O'Malley, Turner's senior vice president of the season started three months of the season started three months are results for NBA ratings," said Kevin O'Malley, Turner's senior vice president of programming. "It's hard to predict going forward, but this is definitely a great start for ne."

Al NBC, there was encouragement and caution. "It's a good start, but everybody bere and in the NBA knows that it's just that - a start," said Ed Markey, a network spokesman. "We know we still have a lot of work to do to regain the fans and keep the interest.

"Fans were itching to see the NBA," Markey added. "They had a curiosity to see different players on new teams, and The first game, New York Knicks at there are more teams whose fans feel Orlando Magic, posted a 2.5 national rating, while the Houston Rockets-Los

An average of 17,192 fans attended the NBA's 12 games Friday night, (WP, AP)season.

PEANUTS

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OUR TEACHER .. SEE? I

DREW A GREAT BIG HEART.

THE COMPLAINTS I GET ABOUT YOU! I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD!

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NO, I'VE

BEEN WAITING

Sharks' Goalie Too Sharp for Coyotes

veloping race for the eighth Western

The Associated Press

San Jose ended Phoenix's five-game win in Florida. Pierre Turgeon added Phoenix five-game win in Florida. Phoenix Coyotes played, the more San ahead of the idle Kings in the de-Jose's goalie, Mike Vernon, frustrated

Vernon was at his best in the third period Monday night, when be bad 12 Flames ended a four-game winless

NHLROUNDUP

of his 27 saves in a 3-0 victory. Mike Ricci, Jeff Friesen and Stephane Mattean scored for San Jose, with Matteau putting the puck into an empty net with 48 seconds remaining.
The shutout, Vernon's fourth this season, was his ninth in 99 games with

SHOULD I SIGN IT "LOVE"

OR JUST "AFFECTIONATELY?"

WHAT I'VE BEEN

WAITING FOR

SHE'S A VEGETARIAN.

AND BROCCOLI AROUND IT ..

I'LL DRAW SOME CARROTS

the Sharks.

IT LOOKS MORE LIKE

A BAKED POTATO ..

streak as Phil Housley and Theoren Fleury scored first-period goals and Fred Brathwaite made 35 saves.

Conference playoff spot.

Doug Weight scored his first goal of the third time in its last 10 games.

Blues 5, Panthers 4 Pavol Demitra scored twice, including the go-ahead goal in the third period, as St. Louis

■ Panthers Sign Bure for 5 Years

The Panthers signed Pavel Bure to a Flames 2, Oilers 1 In Calgary, the five-year contract extension with an option for a sixth year, The Associated Press reported from Sunrise, Florida,

Bure, 27, a high-scoring Russian winger, will remain under contract the season for Edmonton, which out- through at least the 2003-04 season. shot the Flames, 36-26, but lost for just Financial terms were not disclosed, but sources put the deal at \$47.5 million over five years with an option year at . \$10.5 million.

He started the season with the Van-

CALVIN AND HOBBES

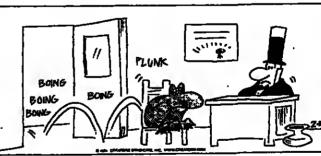


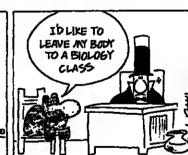






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Marketing George

By William L. Hamilton New York Tunes Service

MOUNT VERNON, Virginia — He is the other as First Guy: architect, enpresident with a problem.

the first presidents." Lon fascinating Robert Redford Beard, 10, said of George wants to make the movie. Washington during a visit to his 18th-century estate. Lon's the road with a blockbuster sister. Coral Krebs, 28, added, "He's on the dollar bill."

Posterity is a rough game. After more than 200 years in ciety until Feb. 22. His ivory the public eye. George Wash- teeth, if not his smile, have ington has been boiled down been a great photo op. to a fact and some change.

But the first president has his first-ever media and markeong team. And 1999 is a Day, the day he must share campaign year: the year Washington goes for the introduced at his home by the hearts of his countrymen.

Troubled by stagnating attendance and a rocky recognition factor, especially among schoolchildren, the directors of Mount Vernon, the capital of Washington's legacy, have inaugurated a \$3 million public relations campaign to re-position him as a national figure with what the spinmasters might call "heat.

We were looking for something with a lot of sizzle," said Michael Quinn, one of the campaign men. 'He had great name recognition, but not a real high quotient of excitement. Dull. boring. He was the first president. Of course. So what?"

The campaign is "Only in 1999. The name for a year of celebration tagged to the bicentennial of Washington's death on Dec. 14, 1799.

In what scholars are afraid is a crowd-pleasing shift from education to entertainment at historic sites, Mount Vernon's advance guard has sent out 2.000 press kits and conracted 50,000 communities to range from planting trees to rumed cortege.

sites and three new books, including his diaries, will also help to establish Washingtoo vironmentalist, entrepreneur, 'I know that he was one of fashion plate, both flawed and

Washington is already on "Treasures From Mouni Vernon," parked at the New York Historical So-

On Feb. 15, Presidents' with Lincoln, he will be re-Potomac River, Mount Vernon has added a new museum and refurnished the mansion with 100 objects owned by Washington. A new "Death and Funeral Procession Tour' will provide black armbands for visitors. The master bedroom will be set up as the death scene, complete with bloodleoing equipment used by physicians who tried to save him from his sudden cold.

"Nearly a third of his blood was drained," said Sally McDonough, manager of media relations at Mount Vernon, "That took us two days to figure out." There was discussion of piping in bad smells, but consideration of the idea was put on hold because staff historians could not agree on what would be

authentic to the period. The celebration will be capped by a televised 18thcentury state funeral on Dec. 18. "We're going to try to make it feel like the Diana said Melissa funeral. Groppel. manager of special events, who is handling the encourage festivities that hand-crafted coffin and cos-

'Death of a Salesman' Brings Miller's Art to Life

By Michiko Kakutani

NEW YORK — A half century after its premiere, "Death of a Salesman" has become an American classic - a perennial produced around the world, from Baltimore to Beijing, and routinely taught in highschool English classes and mounted in com-munity theaters. The play has become an institution, part of the accepted theater canon, and today even boasts its owo Web site (www.deathofasalesman.com), where, in an ironic twist on its central theme, you will be able to purchase souvenirs.

With the opening Wednesday of the Goodman Theater's production of "Salesman" at the Eugene O'Neill Theater on Broadway - 50 years to the day from the play's 1949 world premiere - many of the debates that attended the original opening have long since become obsolete. We no looger questioo whether a play about a little man (a "low-man," as opposed to a king or powerful ruler) can be called a tragedy, just as we no longer question the ethnicity of the play's bero, the Jewishness or noo-Jewishness of his locution.

At the same time, however, other debates persist. While "Salesman" has continued to enjoy enormous popular success. both the play and its author have maintained a less than stellar reputation among many high-brow critics. "Salesman" has been de-bunked as a didactic commentary on the bankruptcy of the American dream of success, while Arthur Miller has been dismissed as an epigone of Ibsenism, a preachy, pompous and portentous writer who belongs to a middlebrow, pre-modemist past.

In retrospect, it is an overly simplistic judgment - especially when it comes to "Salesman," Miller's most famous, most enduring and in many ways most anomalous play.

Ironically enough, Miller's owo ponderous pronouncements have tended to reinforce the perception of his work as an outmoded form of social realism. In one 1950 essay, he argued that "Death of a Salesman" — which chronicles the last day in the life of a salesman named Willy Loman, who has lost his job and, be fears, the love of his son Biff - is 'the tragedy of a man who did believe that he alone was not meeting the qualifications laid down for mankind by those clean-sbaven frontiersmen who inhabit the peaks of broad-

casting and advertising offices."

Willy the failed salesman and willful sui-



Arthur Miller believes works of art can "change the consciousness of people."

cide, Miller suggested in his own autobiography, represents the fate of a true believer in America's false dream of success: "This pseudo life that thought to touch the clouds by standing oo top of a refrigerator, waving a paid-up mortgage at the moon, victorious at last." His single-minded pursuit of success has blinded him to the love of his own family, robbed him of his seose of self and left him to subsist on a diet of illusions.

In contrast to Eugene O'Neill, who de-clared that be was "interested only in the relation of man and God," Miller has implied that the tragedy in his own work springs from the relation between man and his environment, between man and the conditions that suppress him and pervert "the flowing out of his love and creative instinct."

The playwright's own unhappy expenences during the Depression and the 1950s. wheo be was convicted of contempt of Congress for refusing to name oames before the House Un-American Activides Committee, persuaded him, he has said, that politics determines the extenors of your personality." He remained convinced, he once stated, that all serious plays ultimately ad-

dress a single question: "How may a man make of the outside world a home?

Truly great work, he said in a 1958 in-terview, is "that work which will show at one and the same time the power and force of the human will working with and against the force of society upon it."
Yet io Robert Falls's darkly hued new

staging from Chicago, "Death of a Salesman" seems less a social drama than a fierce portrait of a father and son, caught in a fatal embrace of love and resenument and guilt.

And Brian Dennehy's Willy Loman seems less a man, in Miller's words, who 'embodies in himself some of the most terrible conflicts running through the streets of America today" than a perpetual adolescent caught in the dizzying gap between reality and his own expectations. This Willy Loman, like Dustin Hoffman's in 1984 on Broadway, may not be a tragic figure, but be is a touching one, subsisting on past memory and future hope. His dilemmas are more psychological than sociological, more existendal than environmental,

The play's structure, too, seems a far cry from the rough-hewn carpentry often as-

sociated with Miller's work. There is a dreamlike quality to "Salesman," an expressionistic iovocation of shifting moods and time frames.

Certainly "Salesman" has its problems: a paint-by-numbers Freudianism, a conveniently withheld secret that overshadows the second act, and supporting characters who are little more than cardboard cutouts.

These flaws, however, are subsumed by the play's visceral and deeply affecting por-trait of father and son. The play limns Willy's fears of losing Bitf's love and his own longings for immortality — his desire not just to be liked, but to be well liked — and it immerses the audience in Willy's conflicted, contradictory state of mind. The play was constructed on the premise

that Willy, in his growing panic and confusion, sees time not as a continuum but as a simultaneity of moments past and present. In the play's contessional structure, current anxieties fade into remembered guilt, and dreams and regrets blur and overlap.

in recent years, the most successful pro-ductions of Miller's plays have played down the political, polemic aspects to reveal their psychological subtext, the bedrock emittions of sexual passion and familial love, betrayal and guilt that lurk beneath the sociology.

Their success underscores the current recaissance that Miller has been enjoying not just in Britain, where his work has found not just in Britain, where his work has found a ready audience among theatergoers reared on politically committed playwriting, but also in the United States, where the Signature Theater Company recently completed a yearlong retrospective of his plays in New York.

What accounts for Miller's continuing ap-

peal? Perhaps some of the very aspects of his work that seem so old-fashinned — his moral seriousness and fondness for mythic intonadons - are refreshing automalies in this age of relentless frony and cynicism.

In a day when the avant-garde has in-sisteotly purveyed a vision of a fractured world. Miller's assumption that "life has meaning" appeals to our vestigial belief that the dots can be connected, that a pattern can be found in the carpet. In a day when the arts are increasingly becoming a form of entertainment, his efforts to address the large questions of right and wrong suggest that the theater can still provide a venue for intellectual debate.

Indeed, his plays attest to his own belief that works of art can "change the consciousness of people and their estimate of who they are and what they stand for.



PHOTO OP - Kevin Costner and Robin Wright Penn at the Los Angeles premiere of their movie "Message in a Bottle." Paul Newman also stars.

PEOPLE

Onassis after be married Jacqueline Kennedy, according to the March issue of Vanity Fair. He did oot marry for love," she was quoted as saying, "It was more a marriage of business convenience." The article is based on interviews with Callas from 1947 to ber death in 1977. The excerpted quotes are from the book "Maria Callas: Sacred Monster," by Stelios Galatopoulos, to be published in March.

The cartoonist Charles Schulz said he wasn't prepared for a multi-ethnic Broadway revival of "You're a Good Man, it a shot. The play includes a pianoplaying Schroeder who is black and an Asian Linus, still trailing his blanket, Schulz told the Press Democrat of Santa Rosa, California, in an interview published Sunday, that he was oot racist — he with hers. We'll see what bappens." The was only concerned about others tinker- couple, who have two children aged 4 ing with the "Peanuts" gang he still and 6, separated in January.

THE OPERA diva Maria Callas owns. If people are "willing to accept that Lucy's leaning on the plano playing up to a black Schroeder, all right, let's see bow it goes," Schulz said. The produc-tion opened Thursday to mixed reviews.

> Tammy Wynette's doctor says there is no reason to suspect that the country music superstar died from anything other than a blood clot. Willis Marsh of the

> University of Pittsburgh Medical Center responded Monday to a campaign by three of Wynette's daughters to exhume their mother's body for an investigation into the cause of her death in April. Wynette was 55 when sbe died.

> Kod Stewart is not g for a recon ciliation with his wife of eight years, Rachel Honter. But "it's all too early to tell," he said in USA Today on Monday. "I'm not holding my breath. I'm moving on with my life, and she is moving on

'Shakespeare' Tops Oscar Nominations

OS ANGELES — The romantic comedy "Shakespeare in Love" snared 13 Oscar nominations Tuesday, gearing up to do battle for best picture of 1998 with the World War II epic "Saving Private Ryan," with 11 nominations, 'Life Is Beautiful," "Elizabeth" and "The Thin Red Line."

John Madden was nominated as best director for "Shakespeare." as was Steven Spielberg for "Ryan," Peter Weir for "The Truman Show." the Italian Roberto Benigni for "Life is Beautiful" and Terrence Malick for "The Thin Red Line." "Life Is Beautiful" also was nominated as best foreign language film, the first time a movie has earned nominations in both categories since 1969. It will compete against "Central Station" from Brazil, "Children of Heaven" from Iran, "The Grandfather" from Spain and "Tango" from

Argentina.
In the best-actress category, Gwyneth Paltrow was nominated for her role to "Shakespeare In Love," Fernanda Montenegro for "Central Station," Cate Blanchett for "Elizabeth," Meryl Streep for "One True Thing" and Emily Watson for "Hilary and Jackie." Tom Hanks, who has already won two best-actor Oscars, was nominated for his role in "Ryan." He was joined by lan McKellen for "Gods and Monsters," Benigni for "Life Is Beautiful." Nick Note for "Affliction" and Edward Note for "American Beautiful.

Kathy Bates was nominated for best supporting actress for her role in Primary Colors," Brenda Blethyn for "Little Voice." Judi Deneb for 'Sbakespeare in Love," Rachel Griffiths for "Hilary and Jackie" and Lynn Redgrave for "Gods and Monsters." Nominated for best supporting actor were James Coburn for "Affliction," Robert Duvall for "A Civil Action," Ed Harris for "The Truman Show," Geoffrey Rush for "Shakespeare in Love" and Billy Bob Thornton for "A Simple Plan."

The Oscars will be awarded March 21.



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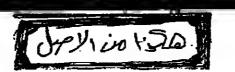
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